



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
July & August, 2016

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1

Whenever change comes along in life, this passage from Ecclesiastes comes in pretty handy. And we know that change is both inevitable and necessary. Often it is difficult and we must forge onward (with God's help and love) until we reach a place of personal renewal; but more often it's good, positive, and leads us into new and wonderful things! And so it may be for us at Palm Springs Presbyterian, during the hot and somewhat lazy days of summer - a time to take advantage to make incremental changes that will lead us forward.



It's amazing to realize that I've been here for five years now, and in that time while much has remained the same, much has changed. Still, there is a lot to do, and your Session is working towards goals of fundraising and financial stability, new ways we might engage one another and our community, how to approach the much needed 'painting project,' and ways in which we can better utilize the limited space we have for our ministries. One of the decisions that has been made regarding this last need is that I will be moving into what is now the church office, and Jackie will be moving into what is now the Pastor's study. This will allow me the needed room to counsel individuals and couples, spend more time preparing sermons on site, and conduct other church business. It will also provide a space for pre-service prayer/preparation and post service changing. Jackie will have the room needed for her desk and immediate supplies, and when present the doors can be wide open for accessibility, as they are now.

All of this makes so much sense, yet it will also create that infamous 'change' that can unsettle years of habit. Following the move, the 'office' door on Riverside will not be accessible; the general office entry will be on the parking lot side of the church, with signage and a path leading the way. In the morning, the first here will unlock the lot gates, and visitors will park and enter there. On Sundays, we'll open the emergency exit for the band, much as we do now. It's been fun being so present and in the middle of things for the past five years, but many tasks have been impaired as well. I will continue to be accessible and now will be able to broaden what I do while present on site!

Both Jackie and I are discovering how much 'stuff' we have acquired, and are 'cleaning the closets' of our professional lives. In this way, we will make room for new possibilities, ideas, connections, communication and ways of being in our service to all of you. Working on this transition has inspired me to go through the 'stuff' I've acquired at home, too; and, to go through the 'stuff' on my mind and heart, those things that clutter the mind and stall opportunities for personal transformation. As God's people, we are called to be active and present in faith and service, looking beyond the earthly things and habits that can hold us back and cause the best of intentions to disappear, to fall aside.

Perhaps in this season, then, in these 'hot and lazy' days of summer, each of us can take the time to clear away the clutter that can stall us in shadow, and make room for the transforming love of God in our lives. We always talk about 'faith' being a verb, what if we thought of ourselves as being a verb?! Ready to be modified and put into action! There is a time for everything, for every activity under heaven, and what a joyful thought that we are motion,

always moving towards God, always transforming, always opening new doors of opportunity and hope. Be then, alive in your faith, and experience the Truth that everything is possible under God's sun! In Christ, Rev. Christine

Rev. Christine, Bill Miller and members of TRENO neighborhood presenting Rev. Christine a check for \$1,000 to be used for security cameras for PSPC.

This generous gift was given from funds TRENO received for participating in Modernism week. They gave donations to several good causes in our community, and we were blessed to receive one. We look forward to continuing to build our relationship with our neighbors, and opening up our doors to more community events... Thank You TRENO!!



“Out of Chaos..... HOPE”

As the motto of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the work of the National Response Team continues at an intense pace in this broken and hurting world. And, as representatives of the members and friends of Presbyterian Church USA, the team responds with your encouragement, concerns, and prayers to the survivors when responding to Natural, Technological, or Human Causes. Natural disasters recently in our area have been the wildfires (San Diego, Kern County, and San Francisco). Additionally, teams have responded to the Flint, MI public water crisis. The devastating flooding in West Virginia, Louisiana, and other areas will require long term recovery teams to assist in developing the community's plan for rebuilding. And, too often, we wake up to news of another human caused disaster devastating a community. At the request of the Presbytery of the area, PDA Teams respond quickly, to walk along-side the church (and community) leaders as they traverse uncharted waters of a human caused disaster, e.g. San Bernardino, CA, Charlestown, SC, Roseburg, OR, and Orlando, FL. But, there is also joy in the morning when the response is to celebrate the

recovered in our Presbyterian community, such as the open house of “Westport Rising” Kansas City, Mo., after a major church fire. This is a sampling of the involvement of your Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. For each major disaster, a special fund is established and a Disaster Recovery Number assigned. At any time, gifts can be made through the church (the annual total mission gifts of each church are tracked) and you can be confident the funds benefit the survivors. Identify it as a PDA gift and, if it is for a specific disaster, please note so it will be appropriately credited.

On a personal note, thank you for your prayers, support and your interest in the work of PDA. It is a privilege to serve Christ and share his love, as part of the Mission Agency of Presbyterian Church, USA.

In his service, Morella Larsen, National Response Team Member

Our Incredible Congregation / Summer Fund Update

A couple of months ago, your church leadership put out an honest plea for help in continuing the work and ministry of Palm Springs Presbyterian through the long, hot summer months. There is no getting around the fact that the majority of our church family heads to cooler climes from around May until September or, often, the following January. This season, because of the generosity of both year ‘round and seasonal family, we have **succeeded** in achieving two goals; one, to meet a matching goal of **\$2840** generously offered by a friend of our church and the other, our crazy, hopeful, faithful request for donations to reach \$ 20,000. Actually, we are still \$250.00 short of that goal, and it would be pretty amazing if somehow we are able to achieve it. But, **\$19,750.00** is incredibly wonderful!!

Every penny we have received will go towards our budgeted items, and PSPC will be able to welcome everyone ‘home’ in the fall with a healthy financial base: a positive balance at the end of Summer, a balance created solely by tithes and donations. You have created this miracle by your generosity and faith in our ministry together. I, and your Session, are deeply grateful for your continued trust and support. There are not words to express what the success of the ‘Summer Fund’ and Matching Fund drives mean.

No words, other than Thank You, Bless You, and may God Bless our dear church in its ongoing life and ministry. Yes! Thank God for all of you who give both financially and physically through participation in the life of PSPC.

In His Service, Rev. Christine.

BREAKING NEWS (and it’s GOOD news!)

Today, June 30, at 10:40 a.m., an anonymous donor provided the final \$250.00 to our Summer Fund Campaign. WE DID IT! Thank you, Bless you, Hooray for PSPC! God is always at work!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Randy Bruno	1
Nancy Spencer	6
Alex Danson	7
Daniel Morgan	9
Bonnie Koster	9
Virginia Allen	16
Bob McCoy	16
Barbara Henderson	26
Gail Jones	28
Jody Allen	28
Erika Voerman	30

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Carole Rogers	11
Ernie Moore	13
Emilie Warren	15
Judy Ellis	16
Kathryn Summers	18
Paula Newell	20
Jackie Morgan	21
Gene Hempy	22
Joyce Johnson	22
Mary Ruth Erickson	22
Sabella Trujillo	23
Jim Hamilton	27

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Karol Egan	2
Virginia Ross	3
Brenda Pafford Erickson	4
Beverly Pillow	6
Ruth Hunter	8
Marilyn Walker	18
Evelyn Wulf	27

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.



July & August Sonshine

Pastor:
Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:
Alex Danson

Office Administrator:
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:
Jeff & Jackie Morgan