



SONSHINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, March 2008

From Pastor Bill's "Powerbook"

March 2008

As we move further and further into Lent, it is well for us to remember that at this time we walk with Jesus toward his Cross...and then...to celebrate his Resurrection! Make a point to have daily devotional times of reading Scripture, a devotional, and prayer every day through Easter. Use the devotional guide you find in your Order for Worship every Sunday.

Elder Bob Wulf sent me a fascinating email about Easter being so early this year; something none of us have ever seen unless we are over age 95. For example, this is the next to earliest date Easter ever falls (March 22nd is the earliest!) and none of us will live long enough to see it this early again. So, why do I tell this? To remind us to make the most of Easter we can. How? Bring a neighbor, loved one, friend, to worship on Easter, March 23rd.

We will celebrate **Palm Sunday** (March 16th) with a special time of music and remembering what Jesus did for us. **Maundy Thursday** - March 20th - will see us eating with our friends from the Cathedral City Community Presbyterian Church before we celebrate Jesus' Last Supper and the Tenebrae, which means "shadows" and remind us of how Jesus was deserted and betrayed before his crucifixion. *This service begins at 5:59 pm for dinner (\$5.00 donation) and the Lord's Supper about 6:45 p.m.*

Easter or, as I like to call it, **Resurrection Sunday** on March 23rd, will be a time of celebrating God's victory over the death that separates us from God through Jesus. It would be a great time to invite and bring someone to celebrate with you.

Also, on Palm Sunday and Easter we will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering that goes to help people such as the Katrina victims, the SoCal fire victims, the Indonesian Tsunami victims, etc. More to come on this very special offering to which we have been so generous

Then, of course, there is Pompeii! See elsewhere for information.

Later in the Sonshine, you will see my sermon/meditation titles and scriptures for these great days. Please read the scriptures ahead of time and come prepared for great and wonderful days.

Let's make this Lenten time very special for us as a congregation and as individuals seeking to find and follow God's direction for us in the coming weeks and months. How? With prayer, Scripture reading, Devotional time, sharing with others. As simple and difficult as that!

Thank you all and God bless you and your loved ones in 2008.

Yours, in Christ's Service,

Pastor Bill

William N. Johnson
Interim Pastor

REMEMBER: Next Deadline for April 2008 Sonshine is March 20th

Worship Schedule and Sermons for March - April 2008

CONTINUING IN 2008: WATCH AND WATCH OUT!

March 2008, Pastor Bill will continue his sermon series, he calls, “**Faith Fights for Fullness; Walking in Christ**”. *Question:* What is the role of faith and religion in a world that is struggling with the whole idea of faith or no faith? Plan on participation in worship and **invite and bring a friend** to also grow in God’s grace. That is the only way to grow.

Here is the schedule of worship and preaching for February-March 2008. As you prepare to participate in worship, please read the noted Bible passages in preparation and ask yourself this question: “***What do these passages say to me and how will Pastor Bill present them?***”

The specific Theme of the sermon is in (theme) following the title

MAR. 02 -”There’s Power in the Presence” (Power)

4th Sunday in Lent

The Lord’s Supper

Acts 2:1-14; II Corinthians 3:3-6, 8, 9, 17

MAR. 09 -”Free to Live” (Life)

5th Sunday in Lent

Psalm 118; Galatians 4:21-5:1

MAR. 16 -“Make Time to be Holy” (Holiness)

PALM /PASSION SUNDAY

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29;; Philippians 2:5-11

Mar. 20 -”Out of the Shadows” (Holiness)

Maundy Thursday Communion

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; John 13:1-7, 31b-35; I Corinthians 11:23-26

MAR. 23 -“Up! Up! Alive and Well” (Future Now)

RESURRECTION SUNDAY/EASTER

Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

MAR. 30 -“Full Circle” (Renewal)”

Psalm 16; John 20:19-31

Potluck Luncheon

APR. 06 -”God’s Plan for You!” (Life Direction)

The Lord’s Supper

Psalm 116:1-4,12-19; Luke 24:13-35

APR. 13 - The Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen, Guest Worship Leader

APR. 20 - The Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen, Guest Worship Leader

APR. 27 - The Rev. Dr. Art Ihnen, Guest Worship Leader

Potluck Luncheon



Session Meeting

SESSION NOTES HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church met on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at 9:30 am, in the Lounge. Session opened with prayer and a brief devotional.

All were present. Business included discussing the proposal by Architect Chris Johnson for redoing the old Community Church of Palm Springs. Discussion included pros and cons, the cost factors involved and the possibility of involving the Cathedral City Church in the decisions and the possibility of the merger.

Committee reports were heard and approved. Session Committees were affirmed including: *Administration & Personnel*: **Bob Wulf**; *Finance & Stewardship*: **Harvey Stephens**; *Evangelism & Outreach*: **Allen Perrier**; *Congregational Life*: **Jim DeHart**; *Mission*: **Jackie Morgan**; *Long-range Planning*: **Harry Henderson**; *Merger*: **Cal Custer**; *Nominating*: **Cal Custer**; *Christian Education*: **David DeVries**; *Worship & Music*: **Geri Bintliff**. Feel free to contact any of the chairs or any member of Session with your concerns.

The Sessions of PSPC and CCCPC will meet on Tuesday, March 4th at 1:30 pm at our church with the Rev. Dr. Jack Schutte, Acting Presbytery Executive, participating.

The next regular meeting of Session will be on Wednesday, March 19th at 9:30 a.m. Session adjourned with prayer.

Pastor Bill Johnson
Moderator of Session

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

As you may know, we now have a website and you can visit it at palmspringspresbyterian.com

We keep adding to it and it is Session's and Pastor Bill's desire that it will keep all interested, up-to-date on the comings and goings at Palm Springs Presbyterian Church. Potentially it is a help to anyone *new or visiting* the Palm Springs area and is looking for a Presbyterian Church in which to worship and participate. Any comments or suggestions are welcome. So, LOOK IT UP! Tell us what you think.

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The Well in the Desert

Food Needed

The **Well in the Desert**, one of our Mission outreaches, continues to need **food**. So, please, as you come to worship on Sundays bring *canned or boxed food supplies or carefully used clothing* for those in need. They are usually picked up first thing Monday morning. Thank you.

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Souper Bowl Sunday



Was a Great Success!

What a great time we had last month at our SOUPer Bowl Luncheon thanks to the Mission Committee and the Deacons. It was ssooooo....delicious and we raised \$271.58 that was donated to the Salvation Army through the Mission Committee. Thanks to all who provided the soup and to all who so generously gave to support such a wonderful mission project.

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Foster Home Needed for Piano

Can you provide a loving home for our grand piano? We need a home for it until we have a place of our own.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

We continue to look for a Director/Pianist, following every lead but as yet, no success. God will lead us to the right person, of that, I am sure.

We also are so glad that Rev. Ken McCullen has joined our choir. What a magnificent voice! His singing of "My Tribute" brought many of us to tears with his emotional rendition. We look forward to hearing him again soon.

Ruth Teaforde continues to lead the choir and will be with us through Easter. She adds so much to our group. Thank you again, Ruth, for sticking with us.

Cathedral City Community Presbyterian Church will be with us for Maundy Thursday Evening Service and their choir director, Noel White, will direct both choirs. Alex Danson will be the pianist.

Worship service under Pastor Bill continues in a Christ filled hour. It seems like the hour is over too soon. Thank you Pastor Bill, for making the worship service alive and meaningful.

Do you sing in the shower? If so, why don't you come and sing with the choir? We practice at 2 pm Thursdays when there isn't a dinner and 5 pm when there is a 5:59 gathering.

Geri Bintliff
Worship and Music

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PRAYER COMMITMENT

Every single one of us can do this! To commit some time every week or day, praying for PSPC and God's guidance in the future. How much time? That is between you and God. But, prayer does make a difference! To sign up on the Prayer Calendar, call Jan Perrier at 346-7790 or call the church office, 320-2769 and give day and time.

Update From the Cuthberts

January 31, 2008

Dear Friends,

Yes, the "1195" house has been sold and everything is clear. Hooray! It has been 14 months!

We are in good health and enjoying our "real" retirement. However, Verna is teaching several Bible studies and I am liaison for WWJC and Univ. of No. Florida as we have 5 continuing education courses here on campus each semester. I also serve ice cream to the residents on Tuesday and Saturday lunch. I am generous in my portions. Come and enjoy a meal with us!

The enclosed check is for 2008 per capita tax, since we are still members of PSPC.

All for now; in Christian love,

Richard and Verna Cuthbert

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POMPEII VISIT ON TUESDAY,
APRIL 1ST

NO APRIL FOOL JOKE

Here is a chance to "visit" ***Pompeii, Italy*** to see that ancient ruin and gaze at the remnants of the explosion of Mt. Vesuvius so long ago. For only \$55.00 dollars per person, we get a bus trip from PSPC and back plus entrance to the San Diego Museum of Natural History (including a tip for the bus driver) and no worries about airlines, baggage, etc. There is security getting into the museum! Lunches are on your own or bring a lunch. We have up to 15 seats reserved for us and the remaining is for the Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church. We will leave PSPC parking lot about 7:20 am and return about 8:00 pm.

SIGN UP QUICKLY so you will have a seat and/or we might have to cancel the trip. See ***Jackie Morgan*** to sign up or call the church office.

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NEW OFFICE HOURS

PSPC Office hours
M-W-F 8:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.

Tu - Th 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



LENT OFFERS TIME FOR GROWTH

Many of us know our IQ (intelligence quotient), but what about our SQ (spiritual quotient)?

Lent is a good time to think about the quality of your spiritual life. Do you think about God often - or rarely? Do you pray often - or occasionally? How well do you know the Bible? The Commandments? The Beatitudes? The lives of biblical heroes and heroines?

During Lent, commit to spending more time in prayer. Also consider selecting a book of the Bible or a particular Bible character to study in depth during this period.

Some people give up particular items or habits during Lent. If used wisely, this discipline can help you abandon things that have been interfering with your relationship with God.

Seek out devotions and books that can help strengthen your spiritual life. Examples include: Show Me the Way by Henri Nouwen, Six Hours One Friday by Max Lucado, and Lent and Easter Wisdom From Thomas Merton edited by Jonathan Montaldo.

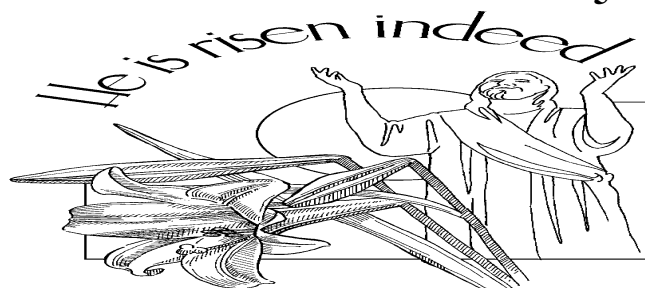
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NEW FLOWER REGISTRY

If you have a special occasion you would like to celebrate or a loved one to remember, please **SIGN UP for FLOWERS** on the new 2008 Flower Registry, which is located in the Narthex

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THERE'S MORE!

On the first Easter morning, three women found an empty tomb. The discovery left them trembling and afraid. They didn't know there was more - a resurrected Lord.

Later that day, the risen Jesus appeared. As happy as the disciples were about this miracle, they didn't yet know there was more - a gift of the Holy Spirit that would make their joy complete.

Early Christians in Corinth were so delighted by the gift of baptism that they could scarcely imagine there was more - the resurrection of the body to eternal life.

As great as Easter is, it's only the "first fruits" of what lies ahead. Celebrate the fact that Christ is risen, but remember that the best is yet to come!

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While greeting people after the Easter service, a pastor was surprised to see a member who rarely attended worship. He asked the man to wait for him until everyone had left. When

they were alone, the preacher said to the man, "John, I'm so glad to see you today. Listen, I have a request to make of you. I want you, beginning today, to join the army of the Lord." The man smiled and said, "Pastor, I'm already in the army of the Lord." Now, John, "protested the pastor, "how can you say that? I only see you at Easter and

Christmas.” John leaned close to the pastor and whispered, “I’m in the Secret Service.”

“The 5:59 GATHERING” in Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
Everyone is WELCOME!! The “5:59 Gathering” includes an outstanding meal for a \$5.00 donation plus lots of fellowship, time of learning and growing together. The “5:59 Gathering” generally meets every other Thursday during the late fall, winter and early spring.

TIME: 5:59 pm. to 7:35 pm.
PLACE: Palm Springs Presbyterian Church (we meet in the 7th Day Adventist Church on Sunrise near Ramon).
FOR WHOM: Members, winter residents, and friends who wish to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and in understanding the Presbyterian Church/Reformed, Calvinist Theology.

The Following is the Spring Schedule
Mar. 06 -“Why Some Presbyterians are leaving the PCUSA & We are Not!”- Pastor Bill Johnson
Mar. 20 -“Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae” – Pastor Bill Johnson-Cathedral City Community Presbyterian Church eating and worshipping with us! Dinner: 5:59 pm Worship, Communion, Tenebrae: 6:45 pm @ PSPC
Apr. 03 -“*Googling Reformed Theology*” *How we have come to believe what we believe and why?* -Pastor Bill Johnson
Apr. 12-*Pastor Bill & Joyce leave for Israel, Egypt and Jordon! Will return May 11th for worship...Gasp! Tired & glad to be home.*
Dinner is at 5:59 pm. for \$5.00 and with reservations—call 760 320-2769. Class is from 6:60 to 7:45 pm. in the church social hall.

This is something you will not want to miss!

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Ladies...mark your calendars!



Presbyterian
Women's Retreat

March 15, 2008

Registration started
Feb. 17th

We are on the Internet!
So, Give us Your E-mail Address

We are now on the **Internet** and our **email**
address is
pspresby@verizon.net

That gets us into at *least* the late 20th
century if not the 21st!! So...please give us
your **email address** so we can email you the
latest happenings of PSPC: letters, the
Sonshine, other important information and
activities. We will **NOT** give this to anyone
else without your permission!!

*Please leave the form below in the offering
plate, give to the office, or mail to the church
office Thank you!!*

Name _____

Member ____ Affiliate Member ____ Friend ____
My/Our email
address _____

You have my/our /permission to give others
in the church my/our email address:
Yes ____ No ____



Bible Study: Wednesday—7:00 AM

The Men's Bible Study, under the insightful
and dedicated leadership of Allen Perrier,
continues on Wednesday mornings at the
church in the Lounge, meeting at 7:00 am
with a study of the **Book of Matthew**. This is
a great way for men to gather together in the
middle of the week to renew our spiritual
batteries as we study the Bible. Then at 8:00
am, for those who wish, we go to breakfast
and continue our fellowship. All men of the
church and any other men are welcome. Just
show up on Wednesday mornings about 7:00



CONTINUES on Tuesday, March, 2008
DURING MARCH, the Women's Bible

Study will continue to meet on Tuesdays from
9:30 am to 11:00 am at the church with Elder
Joyce Johnson (Pastor Bill's wife) leading a
Biblical study on ***Paul's letter to the***
Philippians. **All women of the church are**
invited and urged to bring a neighbor or
friend. Pastor Bill will probably continue to
make coffee for the caffeine addicts!

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A Challenge for All of us:

To Grow means New People. Bring Someone
who needs to hear the Good News of Jesus
Christ.

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PLEASE FEEL FREE: to call our **Interim**
Pastor, Dr. Bill Johnson, anytime you have
an emergency (like going to the hospital) or
with questions, concerns, ideas, etc.
Home phone-(760) 345-2993
E-mail-drwnj57@aol.com
Cell phone-(818) 314-5104

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Sunday School

Sunday School Message

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very
young daughter what the lesson was about.
The daughter answered, "Don't be scared,
you'll get your quilt." Needless to say, the
Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the

pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said, "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

DEACON'S CORNER
From Ellie Cushing's Kitchen

OATMEAL PANCAKES

- 1½ cup old-fashioned oats
- 2 cups nonfat (skim) milk or 1-cup buttermilk and 1/4 cup water
- ½ cup whole-wheat flour
- ½ cup toasted wheat germ or wheat bran
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 2 tsp. oil
- 1 tsp. sugar (optional)
- 1 egg or 2 egg whites

Put oats in blender for better consistency. Mix oats and 1 cup of milk; let stand for 10 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients. Mix well. Pour scant 1/4 cup batter on hot, well-greased pan or use Teflon (also pan can be use). Cook over medium heat; turn once. Makes 6 to 8 large cakes. Many be doubled and frozen. Use toaster to reheat



Presbyterian

Women's Retreat

The Retreat Committee wishes to thank you for your generous response to our "No Show Tea Party" and apologize for the added postage. We neglected to consider the size of the envelope when adding the tea bags but unfortunately the post office didn't!!! If you wish to be reimbursed for the added postage please see Luella Hoover, our treasurer, and she will be happy to do so.

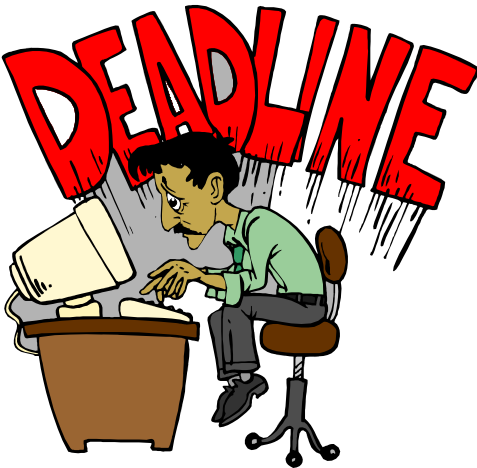
Our speaker this year is Laurel Kelsh Jones who has an extended outreach of ministry. We urge the ladies of the church to come, and be inspired, be uplifted and leave with a joy of being "A Woman of God."

Again, we thank you for your continuous support in helping us to reach out to the women of the church and community. To offer ways for renewal and growth toward maturity in Jesus Christ.



Bob Wulf	6
Steve Lutke	28
Caryl Williamson	28
Ila Summers	30

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The Deadline for the Sonshine is March 20th

Please send articles to my home by
fax: 329-8084 or e-mail:
maggie1952@roadrunner.com
Thank you



Palm Springs
Presbyterian Church
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Palm Springs, CA 92263
(760) 320-2769

OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of the 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, therefore, to be a center for spiritual growth and friendship, where the teachings of Jesus Christ are faithfully received and God's grace is celebrated joyfully with Christian friends!

Interim Pastor:
Dr. Bill Johnson

Pastor Emeritus:
Dr. Harry Summers

Music Director:

Church Secretary:
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editor:
Margaret Pace

**MARCH**

2008

If you have received this issue of the SONSHINE in error or wish to be removed from our mailing list, please fill in your name and address below and send it back to us. Thank you.
