



# SONSHINE



The Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, January 2009

## From Pastor Bill's "Powerbook"



HAPPY NEW YEAR, 2009, and may God richly bless you, your loved ones, and Palm Springs Presbyterian Church.

UPDATE: At this point, all seems to be moving in the direction about which we have been praying: Presbytery approved our moving toward purchasing the former Unity Church property; we should be hearing by the middle of January the action of PILP (Presbyterian Investments & Loan Program); and, then, if all goes well and PILP'S legal department gets their work done quickly, we should know where we re going by the end of January to the first of February.

PLEASE, PLEASE **PRAY** daily THAT PILP WILL APPROVE OUR LOAN and we can move toward having "A Place of Our Own" that will dedicated to nurturing people and proclaiming the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ.

I feel that we have had a wonderful response to the "A Place of Our Own" fund raising. As of this writing, we have in gifts and pledges, over \$80,000.00 toward the goal of \$100,000.00 including, believe it or not, a gift from a member of another Presbyterian Church in **our** Presbytery.

*Joyce and I had the "fun" of flying north to Browns Valley (North of Sacramento and East of Marysville) to see our seven grandkids (and, of course, their parents) Dec. 29-31 returning home in time to celebrate New Year's Eve and then to watch the Penn/USC game on New Year's Day.*

It is a wonderful to see many of our Winter Residents ("snow birds") increasing our Sunday worship attendance and other ministries and programs we have. We are so delighted to have them in worship with us. Maybe some of them/you will join the Praise Singers (choir) that rehearses on Thursdays and again Sundays before worship. It's a wonderful way to serve our Lord and our church.

I asked this last month, but let me ask you again: *what would you like to see us do on Sunday morning worship time or at the "5:59 Gathering" on Thursdays?* Email the church at [pspresby@verizon.net](mailto:pspresby@verizon.net) or email me at [drwnj57@aol.com](mailto:drwnj57@aol.com) or drop a note at the office or in the offering plates on Sundays. **Just let us know.**

Look elsewhere in the **SONSHINE** for announcements about the "5:59 Gatherings" which will meet on Thursday, January 8th and 22nd for some interesting insights to what is happening in the Christian world; the Women's Bible Study on Luke led by Joyce Johnson, beginning again on Tuesday, January 6th at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall; the Men's Bible study, also on Luke, with Allen Perrier continuing on Wednesday at 7:00 am.

If you have not yet given a gift or made a pledge for the "Place of Our Own", I urge you to do so as soon as possible. I am convinced that it is important for all of us to support prayerfully, financially, and physically, our move toward "A Place of Our Own" and help make this a reality for PSPC after 20 years of renting and wandering.

**REMEMBER: Next Deadline** for February 2009 **SONSHINE** is January 22nd. Please see our editor, Margaret, for more details.

Thank you all and God bless you and your loved ones in this Adventurous New Year, 2009.

Yours, in Christ's Service,

*Pastor Bill*

William N. Johnson

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## Worship Schedule and Sermons for January 2009

### THE ART OF GOD AT WORK

**JAN. 04 - "The Art of Beginning Again" ~ *Second Sunday of Christmas***

**Celebrating the Lord's Supper**

**Psalms 147; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:10-18**

**JAN. 11 - See the Yellow Sheet in the Sunday Order of Worship for the rest of the month**

#### **A Time to Take Stock:**

**What is Your Prayer for PSPC? How willing are you to Help Make That Happen? God Has and is Blessing Us; Will you and I Bring God's Love and Grace to Our Community and World? In What Ways Will God Honor Our Efforts and Will We Grow?**

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Just before graduating from Seminary, Dan Bogre received visits by denominational representatives across the country. Each one gave him a list of about 20 types of ministry from which to choose.

Interestingly, Bogre checked every box placed before him. "I thought to myself that I wasn't going to be pigeonholed by a survey for," he said. At the time, Bogre thought he could do any style of ministry.

Later, as an ordained pastor, Bogre began to realize that God had a specific ministry for him. However able he was to do several different types of ministry, he began to understand he was best suited for helping a church grow.

How many boxes **would you** check? How many ways are you willing to try to help your church and community? Sometimes checking a box outside your "comfort zone" can lead to unexpected but rewarding new paths.



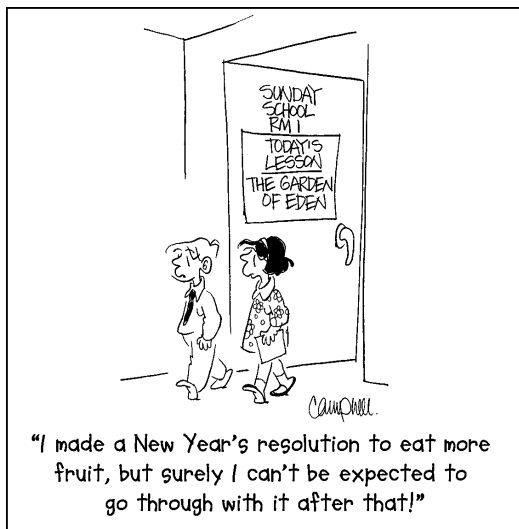
**THE GOOD OLD DAYS**

Robert Burns, the Scottish poet, compiled a poem in 1788 that has been called the World’s Anthem. “Auld Lang Syne” is sung worldwide on New Year’s Eve.

The words are in the old Scottish dialect, and are quite meaningful when translated into today’s language. They speak about lasting friendship and what we might call “the good old days,” As we gather with Christian friends in a home or church, the works are relevant and bonding. Here are two verses loosely translated for today.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot?  
(Should good old days be forgotten?)  
And never brought to mind?  
(And never be remembered?)  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot?  
(Should old friends be forgotten?)  
And auld lang syne?  
(And days of long ago?)

For auld lang syne, my dear,  
(For good old days, dear friend,)  
For auld land syne,  
(For days of long ago,)  
We’ll take of cup o’kindness yet,  
(We’ll drink a cup of kindness now,)  
For auld lang syne.  
(For the sake of the good old days.)



**RULES FROM GOD FOR 2009**

1. **Wake up!!** Decide to have a good day. “Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalms 118:2
2. **Dress Up!!** The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. “The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord look at the heart.” I Samuel 16:7



**A PLACE OF OUR OWN: GIFT OR PLEDGE**

As most of us know by now, we have reinstated our Building Program, “A Place of Our Own” to help raise money to purchase our own home - hopefully, the former *Unity Church of Palm Springs* at 815 S. Camino Real at S. Riverside in Palm Springs between Sunrise and Indian Canyon.

The Session and your Interim Pastor, urge all of us to prayerfully consider re-making or making a pledge to help bring this about: a gift, a one to three year pledge, stock, property, or whatever may be used to help make this happen early in 2009.

Pledges and/or gifts can be placed in the Sunday morning offering or sent to the church office or given to one of the Elders who will give it to the proper people.

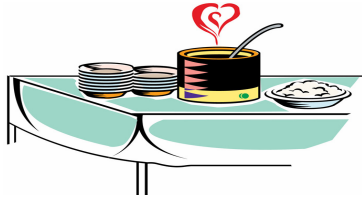
As a Christmas gift to your church, or church away from home, give generously and gratefully for the ongoing work of our God in this community and throughout this valley, nation, and world.

*Thank you for your gracious response*



CHURCH OFFICE WINTER HOURS

**PSPC Office hours**  
**M-W 8:00 a.m. -12:00 noon**  
**Tues. - Thurs 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Closed on Friday**



**5:59 Gathering**

January 8th at 5:59 p.m. saw us gathering for another delightful meal and a program with a touch of "The Church at the Crossroads" brought by Pastor Bill.

The prior 5:59 Gatherings featured a fabulous Turkey Dinner and then a great Ham Dinner with all the trimmings plus singing *a la* Alex Danson and all 45-50 of us. So be sure to sign up for the next 5:59 Gathering on January 22nd

*But, **please**, the committee planning and preparing these dinners need help, especially in cleaning up. See Jim DeHart or Pastor Bill if you are able to help.*



**PALM SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL**  
**CONCERT**

**THE BEATLES: HELP**

**February 11, 2009 7:30 PM**

**PSHS Auditorium**

**Tickets \$25.00 PS Residents \$20.00**

Tickets are available at the Camelot Box Office, Double photo (corner of Sunrise & Ramon) or the PSHS Band Room

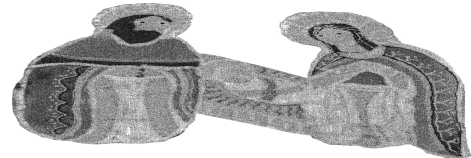
**Proceeds go to support the music education program at Palm Springs High School**



The church is continuing to collect empty ink cartridges (a business in town will pay the band for them) helping the band raise money for their scheduled summer trip to South Africa. You may bring them to church on Sunday or to the office during the week as a jar will be available for collection.

**How to Keep Warm in Church**

1. Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up, and you'll avoid the draft in the back of the church.
2. Invite your neighbors and friends, and sit 12 people to a pew.
3. Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area.
4. Wear thermal underwear (in the appropriate liturgical colors, of course).
5. Wait for an unfamiliar hymn-and then watch the sparks fly!



**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

It is never too late to give to the Christmas Joy Offering that goes to help retired pastors and missionaries, and their families, who have ministered on very low incomes over the years. One half of all that is received goes to help them, the other half goes to Presbyterian Racial-Ethnic schools and seminaries and students preparing for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Thus far, we have received \$1,529.00.



**LOCAL MISSIONS**  
**SAVE YOUR CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS,**  
**POSTAGE STAMPS & POP-TABS**

These items benefit worthy charitable organizations and would otherwise just be thrown away. Please take the time to save these items to help people in need. Thanks

The Mission Committee



**THE HEIFER PROJECT**

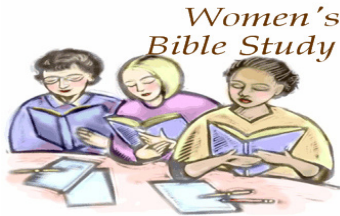
The Mission Committee would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$810.00, to the Heifer Project. By sponsoring goats, sheep, rabbits, honeybees and chicks you extended a hand of God's love to people throughout the world making life better, not only for them but for their neighbors, too.



The Mission Committee is sponsoring PFC JON COLLINSWORTH who is deployed in Iraq. Needed Items are:

- White Socks-Hard Candy-Deodorant -Soap-
- Shaving Cream-Razors-Beef Jerky-
- Sunflower seeds

Thank you for your help



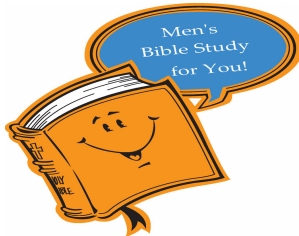
**Women's Bible Study on the Gospel According to Luke led by Elder Joyce Johnson**

**9:30 am to 11:00 am on Tuesdays**

Joyce Johnson, our Pastor's wife, continues to lead the Women's Bible Study meeting on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 am to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall of the church. This year's study is on the **Gospel According to Luke** and all the ladies of the church are welcome to come.

It's a great opportunity to study a book written by one of Jesus' disciples (who also wrote the Acts of the Apostles) and see its relation to our lives today.

Believe it or not, decaf coffee and/or tea and/or water will be made available, thanks to Pastor Bill!?! Anyone for cookies or brownies or ???



**CALLING ALL MEN**  
**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 Luke. 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 am. BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible) and GTBT (Go To Breakfast Together)



**I'D LIKE TO THANK**

Many years ago, comedian Garry Moore- hot when television was a new thing in the 1950s- was the recipient of a TV award for spontaneity. Moore facetiously paid tribute to "the four guys responsible for my spontaneity, my writers."

When the next award went to Bishop Fulton Sheen, he rose and approached the podium. "I also want to pay tribute to my four writers," he declared, "Matthew, Mark, Luke and John!"



**Join the Choir...**  
**You'll Be Glad You Did!**

**MUSIC AND WORSHIP**

**A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN NEEDED**

Have you noticed that sometimes there are only 4 choir members? That is because at most, there are only about 5 or 6 of us and when two or three are missing, it leaves a big gap. Have you been in a choir before? If so, what are you waiting for?? WE NEED YOU!!

Pastor Bill has assigned the Worship Elder to put in place Communion servers for Communion Sundays. Deacons and Elders are being called to serve so if you would like to be included, and you are an Elder or Deacon, active, inactive, winter visitor, please contact Geri Bintliff at 323-1275 so that we may include you.

Christmas has come and gone. So fast!! We hope all enjoyed the music we had prepared for the congregation and we were so glad to have Sheila with us for her contribution. What a flutist she is! HAPPY NEW YEAR and May God bless each and every one!

Gerri Bintliff  
Elder, Worship and Music



**PRAYER COMMITMENT**

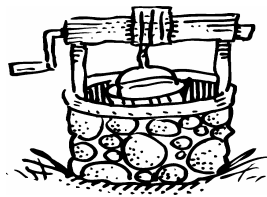
Every single one of us can do this! To commit some time every week or day, praying for PSPC and God's guidance in the future. How much time? That's between you and God. But, prayer does make a difference! To sign up on the Prayer Calendar, call Jan Perrier at 346-7790 or call the church office, 320



**NO SESSION NOTES FOR THIS MONTH**



As most of us know, the shopping bags are here with our PSPC Logo for a \$5.00 donation for the larger bag and \$3.00 for the small one! What a great gift for ones self or friends and good for the environment. These bags help and some grocery stores give credit for using them rather than their plastic or paper bags!!



**PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY AND COLD**  
**The Well in the Desert**  
**Food & Clothing Needed**

The **Well in the Desert**, one of our Mission outreaches, continues to need **food, clothing, blankets, etc.** This is so evident as more and more people are homeless or nearly so, as people loose jobs and children are hungry. 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.



**ARE YOU LOOKING? CHECK OUT**

**OUR WEBSITE & EMAIL**

REMEMBER: Our email address is:  
**pspresby@verizon.net**  
Our website is:  
**palmspringspresbyterian.com**  
Please USE them; tell others!



**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

**FEBRUARY 1st**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL FOLLOWING**

**WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Plan to come and have a hearty bowl of soup and help those in need**

**in the**

**Coachella Valley**

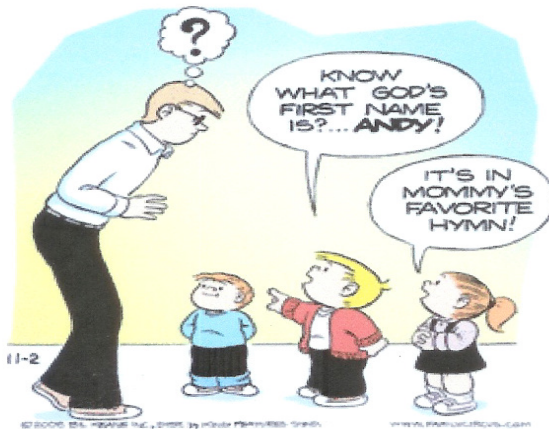
Sponsored by the Mission Committee



Michael Lutke	6
Richard Cuthbert	11
Annie MacEwan	13
Sydney Webb	20
Trent Webb	20
Margaret Pace	22
Suzy Zenker	30
Francis Spreitzer	31



By Bil Keane



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**OUR GREAT COOKS**

From Susan McGuire's Kitchen

**CHEWY CHERRY ALMOND BARS**

Ingredients:

- |                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 c butter, softened   | 2 c all-purpose flour           |
| 2 c packed brown sugar | 2 c regular rolled oats         |
| 2 tsp baking powder    | 1/2 c sliced almonds            |
| 1 egg                  | 1 12-ounce jar cherry preserves |
| 1 tsp almond extract   | (1 cup)                         |

**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**



1. Preheat oven to 350 deg. Line a 13x9x2 inch baking pan with foil, extending foil over the edges of the pan. Grease foil; set pan aside.
2. In a large bowl, beat butter with an electric mixer on medium to high speed for 30 seconds. Add brown sugar and baking powder. Beat until combined, scraping bowl occasionally. Beat in egg and almond extract until combined. Beat in as much of the flour as you can with the mixer. Using a wooden spoon, stir in any remaining flour, the rolled oats, and almonds.
3. Remove 1/2 cup of the dough and set aside. Press the remaining dough evenly into the bottom of the prepare baking pan. Spread with preserves. Crumble the remaining dough evenly over preserves layer.
4. Bake in the preheated oven about 35 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack. Using the edges of the foil, lift the uncut cookies out of the pan. Cut into bars. Makes 36 bars.

TO STORE: Place bars in an airtight container; cover. Store in the refrigerator for up to 3 days or freeze for up to 1 month.



The Deadline for the Sunshine is:

Jan. 22nd

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





Palm Springs  
Presbyterian Church  
P.O. Box 582  
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

Parish Associate  
Dr. Ken McCullen

Music Director:  
Alex Danson

Church Secretary:  
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editor:  
Margaret Pace



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Thank you.

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