



# SONSHINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church July 2010

## Pastor Bill's "July Jewels"

*"Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his name."  
(Ps. 146:1-2 nrsv)*



Can you believe I call this my "July Jewels?" Well, here goes some "diamond-studded" thinking! (See, I really do have a sense of humor!"Chuckle.)

July 4th is still the birthday of the U.S.A. for which we give God all the honor, praise, and glory. Yes, there are some in this nation who do not recognize the God-given and God-driven power behind the founding of this nation, but God is at the heart of our country (*no matter what some think or say*) and what we do or do not do as citizens. As the Psalmist says, "*Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his name.*" Isn't that what we should be doing not only in church but in our neighborhoods and communities as well? And throughout our beloved nation? I believe so.

Since the **General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA)** is meeting in Minneapolis from July 3-10 and many concerns will be raised, I feel it is imperative for us to know what the church says about our purpose as a church: we have clearly stated what is the purpose of the church in our **Book of Order (Constitution)** when it says that "*The great ends (purposes) of the church are:*

- 1) *the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;*
- 2) *the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;*
- 3) *the maintenance of divine worship;*
- 4) *the preservation of the truth'*
- 5) *the promotion of social righteousness; and*
- 6) *the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world."* (G-1.0200)

Now, of course, the media will write and televise all sorts of things (*if they even bother which they won't unless they can make it divisive*) about this assembly; fundamentalist churches will accuse us of all sorts of things, most often misquoted, mis-represented or, even worse, lied about. But, I want you to know where the heart and soul of the Presbyterian Church (USA) lies.

No, I do not always agree with decisions made by our General Assembly, but who among us always agrees with what our U.S. Congress or our State Legislature says, but do we leave for another nation or renounce our citizenship or stop paying taxes or move to a different state? Of course not. We work, if need be, to change things. So, need I say more?

What is important to remember is that our national government is based on our Presbyterian form of government: government by representation; informed representatives but voting their conscience (*we hope and pray for both mind-sets for our politicians~*) For us, as Christians, we believe people who represent us from our Presbyteries to the General Assembly not only vote their conscience, but do so seeking guidance from the Holy Spirit. So pray for our General Assembly from now through July 10th.

How are things going for you this summer? Is worship at the heart and soul of your summer and all the things you do or do not do during these months? Are you sharing something about PSPC (or your church wherever you live) with your neighbors? I hope and pray that you are. Is Jesus Christ at the center of your life and all you do?

We were created and born to worship God; Thus:

**Sundays continue with worship at 10:00 a.m.**

You know what I love? Our **Prayer Chain** and all those who participate. We've had a number of people as this summer has begun either ill or needing hospital care or other needs and our "prayers" are always ready and willing. Call *Deacon Robert Kemp* at 1-760-778-6810 if you or someone you love or know needs special prayers. The prayers of the faithful make a difference. Guaranteed!

Bills and costs continue; your continued support of PSPC even if you are away, is so deeply appreciated. God's work always continues and, so it seems, does the cost of electricity, water, maintenance, salaries and all the rest. So, **Thank you!** For your continued prayers and support, including financial support. (**Ooops**, if you are away, just send your check to the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church as some of you already doing!)

Boy, oh boy! Did we have a great Vacation Bible School with the theme of **High Seas Expedition** with 10 children being led by Sue Cooper, Ellie Cushing, Fae Custer, Karol Egan, Dick Erickson, Eva Hendrix, Lucille MacEwan, Sophie MacEwan, Daniel Morgan, Elizabeth Morgan, Margaret Pace, Jan Perrier, Kelly Reece, Nancy Spencer, Barbara Stephens, Harvey Stephens, Sally Weber, Joyce Johnson, all members and friends of PSPC> A great time for all. Now, since the Cahuilla School is going on "Year 'round" schedule their next break is in November and some have suggested we do a "**Vacation Bible Camp**" during that time to reach more children for Christ—what do you think?

But, did you also know that five of our members were reading tutors this spring at the Cahuilla School for 3rd graders? *Sue Cooper, Joyce, Margaret Pace, Jan Perrier, and Barbara Stephens.* Great mission, outreach, and service. More readers could be used next fall beginning September or October. Contact Joyce Johnson if interested.

I am going to keep saying this and hope/pray that you agree:

***I am convinced that this church has a great future; that is, I firmly believe God has a great future for us: a resurrection of sorts, which is happening. But you and I have to do our parts! Are you!***

**How you and I respond will determine the results of God's future for PSPC.**

May this summer continue to bring you and your loved ones God's richest blessings, even as I remain, yours, in Christ's service,

Pastor Bill  
William N. Johnson  
"Interim" Pastor

**Beehive**



This modern symbol represents the church and its many, varied "workers." A multitude of people, each with different tasks and gifts, works to build up the body of Christ. Often, nine bees are pictured near the hive to represent the nine fruits of the spirit. (See Galatians 5:22-23).

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE AND SERMONS FOR JULY, 2010**

July means, "*hot summer days and nights.*" For us, as we follow Jesus, we follow Jesus, we continue to live in "*Ordinary Times*" yet there is little ordinary about all that is going on in the world around us: oil spills, self-centered politicians, greedy CEO's, wars and deaths, floods and earthquakes, etc. Our sermon series continues to try to help us cope with changing and challenging events in life and faith. Please read the Scripture passages I have noted with each sermon; invite and bring a friend; and grow together in the "*grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ,*" and how that plays out in today's world.

**JULY 04 ~ "How Much is Your Faith Worth?"**

**The Lord's Supper by Intinction**

**4th of JULY CELEBRATION**

**Psalm 30; Galatians 1:1-14; Luke 10:1-11; 16-20**

**JULY 11 -- "How to Lead a Worthy Life in Christ"**

**Psalm 82; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-35**

**JULY 18 -- "Visible Yet Invisible and Always Present"**

**Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42**

**JULY 25 -- "No Distractions from Our Goal"**

**Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13**

**Salad Potluck Luncheon**

**AUG. 01 -- "All One in Christ"**

**The Lord's Supper by Intinction**

**Psalm 107:1-9. 43; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21**

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### **PRAYER COMMITMENT**

As members and friends of PSPC, we should commit some time every week or day, praying for the church and God's guidance in the future. How much time? That's between you and God. But, **prayer does** make a difference! Call Jackie at the church office and sign up on the Prayer Calendar. The number is 760 320-2769.



### **CENTERING PRAYER**

**Are you interested in something new? Well, not so new.** Beginning Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm every Tuesday evening, we will have Centering Prayer here in the church. Centering Prayer involves meditation, contemplation, silence and much more which enables us to have a mysterious union with God. Allen Perrier will lead the group in prayer.



## PATRIOTIC TRIVIA

As we celebrate America's birthday, it's interesting to note that clergymen wrote both the Pledge of Allegiance and the hymn "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Rev. Francis Bellamy wrote the pledge in 1892. Rev. Samuel Francis Smith wrote the hymn in 1831. Both men were Baptist ministers.

The pledge was first used in public schools in 1892 during Columbus Day observances. "My Country 'Tis of Thee" was used as a national song before "The Star-Spangled Banner" was named America's national anthem in 1931.

### "AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"

Katharine Lee Bates (1859-1929) wrote, edited and taught English in her native Massachusetts. Occasionally, she wrote hymns, too.

On a trip to Colorado, Bates was greatly impressed by amber waves of grain, fruited plains and purple mountain majesties. She believed that God had definitely shed his grace all across this land. A visit to the summit of Pikes Peak inspired Bates to write her most

famous poem-hymn, "America the Beautiful."

Bates also realized that patriotism was an important part of America. She was grateful for heroes "who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life." She wanted all Americans to realize how God had shed his grace on them and had crowned what was good "with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

Bates embodied the spirit of thankfulness to God for all she had experienced and been given.



### SAVE YOUR USED INK CARTRIDGES

The Palm Springs High School Band is collecting used ink cartridges to help finance their trip to Costa Rica next year. You can put the used cartridges in the jar on Jackie's desk. Thanks for your help.

### PSPC SHOPPING BAGS STILL AVAILABLE

We always have shopping to do and it's nice to know that when we use OUR PSPC SHOPPING BAGS *we are also helping with the environment.* Do you have yours??? If you do not have one or two, we can help you change that. Talk with Jim DeHart or Jackie Morgan.



### LADIES BIRTHDAY LUNCHEONS

A lively group of nine ladies gathered at the Old Creek House (formerly Cedar Creek Inn) in Palm Springs, enjoying the tasty lunches and celebrating the June birthdays. As always there was lots of laughter and great stories going around the table. We will continue to meet the last Tuesday of the month during the summer months so keep your eyes open for the sign up sheet that is always available in the fellowship hall at the end of each month.



### The "5:59 Gathering" 'REDISCOVERING GOD IN AMERICA'

The "5:59 Gathering" will gather on the second Thursday of July, July 8th at 5:59 p.m. for a delicious meal and an incredible program called "Rediscovering God in America" looking at our nation's capital and all the historic places which will give us a beautiful and thoughtful "tour" of those historic sites. If you've never been to D.C. this will make you think you were just there; if you've been, it will be superb reminder. Pastor Bill will of course, tell some of his crazy jokes before eating! And, as always, we will have some of the best Palm Spring's meals for only \$5.00!



## ODE TO PALM SPRINGS VBS 2010

SOME SAID,  
"IMPOSSIBLE, THERE IS NO WAY WE  
CAN DO IT."  
OTHERS SAID,  
"GOD HAS PUT US HERE, AND WE ARE  
JUST NOT GOING TO SIT."

MANY ASKED, "WHERE WILL WE GET  
THE CHILDREN?"  
AMONG US WAS MUCH APPREHENSION;  
TIME WAS RUNNING OUT AND  
WE WERE ALL FEELING THE TENSION.

WHO WILL BE THE TEACHERS?  
HOW CAN WE PREPARE THE CRAFTS?  
IT IS COMPLICATED TO FEED THE  
CHILDREN;  
AND FINDING A MUSIC LEADER IS JUST A  
LAUGH.

SO PALM SPRINGS MEMBERS PRAYED  
WITH CONFIDENCE, OUR PASTOR SAID  
"IT IS OUR TIME";  
SO GOD ANSWERED OUR LONGING  
PRAYERS  
AND SENT US CHILDREN SO FINE.

MEMBERS INVITED NEIGHBORING MOMS  
TO BRING THEIR CHILDREN EACH DAY;  
WE PASSED OUT FLYERS TO STUDENTS  
WALKING TO SCHOOL, AND PRAYED  
THAT THEY WOULD MAKE THEIR WAY.

TEACHERS PREPARED LESSONS  
FAITHFULLY  
CRAFTS WERE EXCITING AND FUN;  
FOOD FILLED OUR STOMACHS & OUR  
SOUL  
THE MUSIC STIRRED OUR BLOOD.

OUR MEDIA TEAM, WORKED DILIGENTLY  
WITH CAMERA, COMPUTER AND  
SCREEN;  
OUR POWER POINT PICTURES SHOWED  
UP BRIGHTLY AND FULFILLED OUR LONG  
STANDING DREAM.

OUR WEEK HAS ENDED WITH  
PRAISES TO GOD  
OUR FAITH HAS BEEN  
STRENGTHENED ANEW;  
AS WE SING THE ANCIENT WORDS OF  
HOPE  
THAT BRING US ALIVE WITH THOUGHTS  
SO TRUE.

GOD'S WORD IS TRUE – LETS GO!

*Joyce E. Johnson 6/24/10*



**It Is now GETTING HOT Outside!!!**  
**BUT GETTING WARMER**  
**The Well in the Desert:**  
**Food & Clothing Needed.**

Remember:  
Jesus said, "If your neighbor doesn't have a  
coat, and you have two, give your neighbor  
one of them!"

The ***Well in the Desert*** still needs support.  
Now that we are well settled doesn't mean  
that we can forget the needs of the Well-in-  
the-Desert ~ they still need our support.

Keep up the good work with food, clothing, blankets, money, water, etc. Bring your donation on Sunday mornings, leave them by the front door in the box marked **"Well-in-the-Desert."** Also, remember that the **"2¢-a-Meal"** also helps the **Well ~ 1/2 to the Well** and 1/2 to the **Presbyterian Hunger Fund!** And, Pastor Bill recently said, "We really could up that to **"5¢-a-meal!!"** They are usually picked up first thing Monday morning. Also, remember that the **"2¢-a-Meal"** also helps the **Well ~ 1/2 to the Well** and 1/2 to the **Presbyterian Hunger Fund!** Maybe we should up that to **"5¢-a-meal!!"** Let's all join together in bringing an extra can or two or three to help feed the hungry or bring in some no-longer used coats, sweaters, shirts, shoes, socks, etc. Thank you.



The Session did not meet for it's regular meeting on Wednesday, June 16 as there was not enough required business; no sense in meeting just to meet.

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, July 14th at 9:30 a.m. (a week early since the moderator, Pastor Bill (and Joyce) will be away for her birthday!!



### THE CHURCH'S BAKE SALE

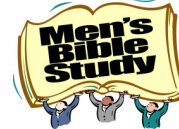
The Bake Sale was a huge success due to the many bakers and buyers of the many assortments of baked goodies. We are able to help defray the cost of the youth from our Presbytery attending the Triennium this July by the amount of \$238.00. Many thanks to all who helped!

### CHECK OUT OUR NEW AND EXCITING WEBSITE & EMAIL

REMEMBER: Our email address is: **info@ps-pc.com**  
Our website is: **ps-pc.com**

Please USE them; tell others!

Our new address is:  
815 S. Camino Real at S. Riverside  
Palm Springs, 92264  
760 320-2769



### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The men's bible discussion group meets each Wednesday morning at 7:00 A.M. in the Fellowship hall. Allen Perrier leads each lesson/discussion and at this printing the subject is TBA. Keep in mind that after each meeting, the men leave for breakfast at a local restaurant. Join us for an uplifting day!



### SUMMER BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN

Leader: the Rev. Sally Weber  
*I Corinthians*

*"The Real Stuff of Christian Living is Love"*

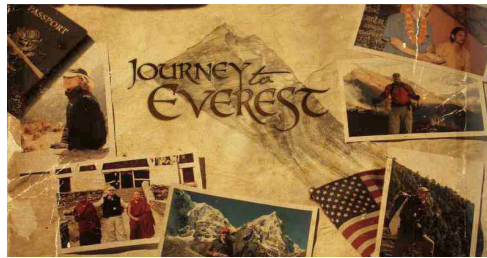
**10:00 to 11:30 a.m.**

In the church's Fellowship Hall



### SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Meets each Sunday, at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. The course of study is from the Kerygma "Discovering the Bible" series and led by Dick Erickson



**MOVIE PREMIER AT PSPC**  
**JULY 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 P.M**

**THE MESSAGE:** Adventure lives at the core of all of us, yet sometimes we are afraid to risk stepping into the unknown. **JOURNEY TO EVEREST** is an entertaining motion picture that explores themes of courage, teamwork and self-discovery to inspire audiences to seek God and the adventures He has set before us.

**THE STORY:** **JOURNEY TO EVEREST** follows the adventures of a team of six American businessmen who travel to the Himalayas to trek to Everest Base Camp. On their way into the mountains to begin their ascent, they are bumped from a plane flight that crashes and kills 18 people.

After the crash, the team begins to re-think their own lives and the time that they have now been given. As they struggle with their decision of whether to continue on their trek, their faith comes into the fore and they discover the depths of who they are as Christians in a life-altering way.

### **PSPC SUMMER MISSION PROJECT**

The Coachella Valley Rescue Mission will hold it's annual Backpack Giveaway on August 28th for local children in need. This helps to ensure that they have a successful start to the new school year. You were so generous last year donating many items to fill the backpacks and if you would like to help again this year, the following items are needed.

Backpacks-pencils  
Crayons-school glue-glue sticks  
Felt-tip markers-eraser-protractors  
Pencil sharpeners-safety scissors  
Notebook paper-pencil holders  
Colored pencils-blue/black pens-K-3  
writing tablets-legal pads-spiral  
notebooks  
Subject dividers-calculators-  
dictionaries  
3-ring notebooks

All items need to be donated before August 25th and a box will be in the Fellowship Hall by the Mission bookcase.

Thank you,

Barbara, Brenda, Jackie, Susan & Margaret  
The Mission Committee

### **SPREAD YOUR SPIRITUAL ENERGY**

A church in New York know for its prophetic witness and its influential ministries has this statement on its Web site:

"We know that despite our reputation for 'speaking truth to power,' all our words and actions are empty if they are not based on the solid ground of faith. We gather in prayer, worship and mediation to renew our commitment to living according to the promptings of the Spirit. We learn and grow in faith through Bible study and forums. We bring music from many traditions into our worship to revive our spirits. And then we take this spiritual energy back out to our homes, workplaces, towns and to a nation in need of spiritual renewal. Much has been given us, and much is asked of us. We cannot waste our spiritual capital, but must ever seek to renew and deepen it."

We all need to tend our spiritual gardens in order to reap the benefits and share them with others.

**NO NEWS FROM OMAHA**

Virginia will play catch-up in the August Sunshine.

**WORSHIP AND MUSIC**

Thunderstorms, lightning, tornado, humidity, baseball games!!! That describes Minnesota! We have had a few nice days but that is when the humidity hits.

I had a wonderful visit with Donna McCullen at the Freight house in Stillwater, Minnesota. Ken had a very bad cold and couldn't come with her.

I have been listening to the services and am so glad to hear Sally Weber and Nancy Spencer have joined the choir. Hope they don't forget that they have promised a duet sometime this summer. After the 4th of July, the choir will be taking a vacation and I have arranged a summer full of great singers, instrumentalists and hoping you will be happy with all of the guest artists.

I am leaving Minnesota today for Washington. Eddie got there Friday and I am anxious to see my home.

God bless and happy summer.

*Ceri Bintliff*, Elder

Worship and Music

**BAKING FOR OUR FIRST-TIME VISITORS**

Although it is summer, we have had a number of visitors joining us for worship and they enjoy the gifts of baked goodies from the congregation. If you wish to contribute by baking cookies, small breads, etc., please call Frances at (760) 320-2025 who will be glad to bag and tag your contributions.

**SAVE YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS**

The church is thinking and doing **GREEN** by collecting glass and plastic bottles and aluminum cans. If you have recycling, you can leave it in the church office for Harvey Stephens who is heading up the recycling drive.

**PSPC IS HAVING A RUMMAGE SALE IN THE FALL!**

Save your gently used items that you no longer need. You can bring smaller items to the church but hold larger items until the fall if you can. If you cannot hold them, call Harvey Stephens and he will arrange to pick them up and store them until the time of the sale.

**From Nancy Spencer's Kitchen**  
**Broccoli Slaw**

- 1 bag (12 oz.) Broccoli Slaw
- 1/4 c dried cranberries or raisins
- 1/4 c walnuts (chopped)
- 1 c apples (diced)
- 1 c of your favorite dressing.

In a medium sized mixing bowl, combine the broccoli slaw, dried cranberries or raisins, chopped walnuts and diced apples. Add dressing and mix thoroughly.



**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.**

**Cell phone- (818) 314-5104**

**A BIBLE QUIZ**

Almost 600 years before Christ, the Babylonian army marched into Jerusalem, ravaging the city and destroying the glorious temple. Furthermore, the enemy soldiers took a large number of the city's inhabitants back to their country to serve as slaves. Later, an Old Testament book described the woes the Jews suffered because of the war. That book begins "How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like the widow she has become..."

Choose the name of that book.

- A. Lamentations
- B. Obadiah
- C. Isaiah
- D. Amos

See answer on page 4



Emilie Warren	15
Mary Metz	16
Paula Newell	20
Jackie Morgan	21
Gene Hempy	22
Joyce Johnson	22
Marilyn Eastman	23
'Sabella Trujillo	23
Lucile Kraehling	24

If I have missed your birthday, please let Jackie know so you can be included next year. Thank you.

**Sonshine Deadline  
July 19th**

Please send articles to my home by

Fax: 329-8084 or e-mail:

maggie1952@roadrunner.com

Thank you



**PSPC OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday through Thursday**  
**8:00 am - 12:00 noon**  
**Closed on Friday**



Palm Srs  
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

Music Director:  
Alex Danson

Church Secretary:  
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editor:  
Margaret Pace



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.

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