

SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church June, 2012

"If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." John 4: 10

From Pastor Christine,

The story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman is one that always makes me smile, for many reasons. Smile, and be reassured. It reminds us of many things: the folly of not associating with those we are 'warned' or 'traditionally' do not associate with (and the



rewards of doing so), God's infinite love and forgiveness, and the deep well of faith that sustains us, offering us the eternity of God's kingdom. If not for God's consistent and persistent presence, I wonder, how one would make it through life on earth?

O.K., that's a pretty heavy way to start off a June message. My first inspiration was to begin with: "I'm on fire!" Of course that may have been because I had just run barefoot to the mailbox and back on a 110 degree day..... But more, it had to do with a renewal of the fire of faith that comes around this time of year, when we are reminded of the gift of the Spirit, and the presence of the Advocate that will always step up when we fall precariously short of God's desire for us.

It is good to remember, on a warm summer's day, that the thirst most in need of quenching is the one that rests in the soul. No matter how well intended we are in our daily living, it is challenging to transform our habits and prejudice. We *believe* what Jesus said, we *crave* to follow his example, we *want* to be our best selves....

Maybe the message of Jesus at the well rests more on 'fire' than 'water.' Perhaps when we read a passage or hear a message, and intellectually process it, we are missing something. Something that needs flame to ignite the passion of the heart of our faith, in action. In other words, it is not a mental exercise, but a physical one, an emotional one, and as such it is challenging – thanks be to God, for otherwise how would we grow, and experience, and live into the challenge of true faith?

In these monthly messages, I have often invited us to think about our future as God's people in our community and the world; and I continue this invitation. But I add to that the spice of looking inward - individually, so that we might dare to fully surrender to God's will that we, above all, Love. And by doing so, we might smear the lines of habit, ego, judgment, prejudice. All those things that can separate us from the fullness of the Christian mission, in all it's true simplicity: to draw the Living Water from the well, and offer it to everyone we encounter, in a way that connects rather than divides, that nurtures rather than directs.

Our faith is personal and intimate, borne on wings of sacrifice and splendor. Let's be generous as we draw from the Well, and let us too, remember to drink deeply from the living water ourselves! There is fire in them there waters, and a joyful promise that is contagious. Ignite your faith, and don't just take the hand of a stranger, look into their eyes. For there lies the Kingdom of God.

Peace, Rev. Christine



Session met on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at 9:40 a.m. Elder Don Shepherd read from the book "Hearing God" by Lory Jones followed with prayer. All members were present with Frances Gotenstein being excused. Also present were Anne Smith, representing the Committee of Ministry (COM).

Session approved having Communion by Intinction beginning in June. Session approved dates for the following: Women's Christmas Tea - December 8th, Bake Sale – February 10, 2013, Women's Retreat – March 9, 2013. June 5:59 Gathering will be June 13th. Session approved having Deacon's purchase of clothes for a hospitalized member. Session approved buying the book "Power Surge" by Michael Foss for Session review. Elders Bob Wulf & Don Shepherd reported on the Presbytery of Riverside meeting of May 5th. Session appointed Elder Nancy Spencer as 1st Alternate to fill in for Elder Bob Wulf at the Presbytery of Riverside meeting on June 9th. Session affirmed to join in functions with the Community Church in Cathedral City. The Treasurer's report showed a profit for the month of April of \$4,093 and a profit year to date as of April 30th of \$7,449.

Session was adjourned at 12:10 AM with prayer. The next Session will be on June 20th at 9:30 AM.

If you have concerns you wish the Session to consider, please speak to one of our Session members, to Jim DeHart, Clerk of Session, or to Pastor Christine.

Elder Jim DeHart, Clerk of Session



On May 6th we had a party to celebrate Rev. Christine's one-year anniversary at PSPC. She was installed as our Pastor on May 1, 2011. My how time flies. We have come to know and appreciate her knowledge, her guidance and her spiritual presence in the life of this church over the past year. Thanks for being our pastor and spiritual guide. We look forward to many more anniversary parties.



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" - \$16.75 - See Morella, Jim or Jackie

Save used ink cartridges for Palm Springs High School Band fundraiser. 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 ¼ 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.



THE NEXT 5:59 GATHERING WILL BE THURS, June 14th.

It is always a wonderful time of good food and fellowship.



ONGOING MEETINGS EVERYONE WELCOME

Sunday Morning Kerygma class with Ernie Moore – Fellowship Hall 8:30 AM

Men's Bible Study with Allen Perrier – Fellowship Hall Wed 7:00 AM Breakfast after Bible Study.

Women's Bible Study is on hiatus for the Summer. Please keep watching for the date it will resume in the Fall. This is a wonderful time for learning, sharing and prayer.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

In June we will have a small, but mighty, dedicated choir. Our worship music for July and August will consist of solos, duets, and our wonderful Praise Band. This summer we will already be working on plans for our fall and winter music. With PSPC"s great website our winter choir members can stay connected and informed.

Worship and Music Elder, Susan McGuire



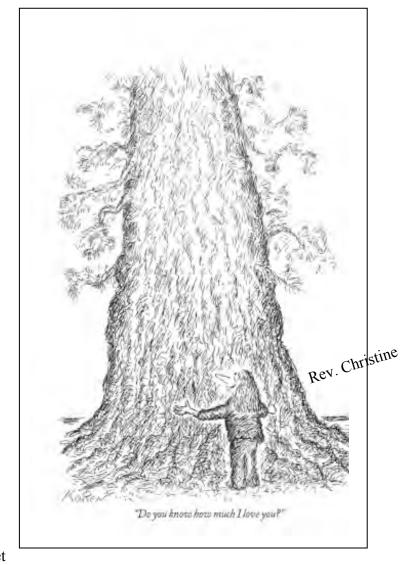
ON MARCH 17,2012 THE WOMEN OF OUR CHURCH HOSTED OUR 20TH WOMEN'S RETREAT. IT WAS AN AMAZINGLY SUCCESSFUL DAY ON ALL LEVELS. WE HAD GUESTS FROM AREA CHURCHES AS WELL AS FROM OUT OF TOWN. THE SPIRITUAL SAFARI WAS ALL WE HAD EXPECTED IT TO BE. MICHELE TELFER WAS OUR GUEST SPEAKER AND SHE BROUGHT HER FAITH AND HER EXPERIENCES TO US IN SUCH A BEAUTIFUL MANNER THAT WE ALL ENJOYED **EXAMINING OUR LIFE AND OUR** EXPERIENCES IN A NEW AND INSPIRED MANNER. THE SPECIAL MUSIC, THE DELICIOUS LUNCHEON, THE ELEGANT AND THEMATIC DECORATIONS AND THE SPIRITUAL WALK WERE ALL POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF EACH WOMAN DOING HER PART. PASTOR CHRISTINE CONCLUDED THE DAY WITH COMMUNION. INDEED, WE ALL FELT OUR CUP RUNNETH OVER. THANKS TO ALL FOR MAKING IT SO. Gail Jones & The Women's Retreat Committee



UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY
Bertha Entwisle's new address is
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Nancy Spencer 6 Alex Danson 7 **Daniel Morgan** 9 Harvey Stephens 11 Donna McCullen 15 Virginia Allen 16 Lucille Mac Ewan 16 Margery Sheehan 18 Barbara Henderson 26 Gail Jones 28





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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.

<u>Pastor:</u> Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:
Alex Danson

Office Administrator:
Jim DeHart

Church Secretary

Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:
Jeff & Jackie Morgan



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