



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
March 2013

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, he has risen!"

I noticed today that, for the first time this 'season,' it was cooler inside a building I entered than outside...or, warmer outside than inside, depending on how one looks at it. What this means, of course, is that things are 'heating up' in the desert, just as they are at our little church! With all the goings-one it's hard to keep up sometimes.



The one thing that is not hard to keep track of, though, is the particular joy that we Christians celebrate this time of year, 'Easter.' The Resurrection of our Lord. As culture embraces holy days, they too often become simply a part of the yearly march through the calendar. Christmas always rises to the top as a favorite, with carols, hymns, and, of course, all those presents! Baby Jesus rests in public display surrounded by everything from Hello Kitty to Donald Duck; seriously, I have witnessed this! It is the 'happy holiday,' filled with a good will that crosses theological boundaries, and perhaps some of this is a good thing. However.

However. When it comes to days of joy, and most excellent presents, I can't imagine anything coming remotely close to Easter. No number of bunnies and candy eggs can hide the revelation of the greatest gift that could ever be received: LIFE, returned to us through the love and grace of our Creator, who sacrificed his Son on our behalf! Forgiveness! Grace! Love! Just saying those words call to mind images of purple crocus pushing up through melting spring snow, the bright yellow of daffodils, that sense of rebirth and life that appears after months of darkness and cold. Even here, in our desert, as water works its way down from frigid mountains and the sage and cacti reveal hues unexpected and exotic to eyes that wintered focused on northern annuals: colorful, but common. Spring IS exotic, it IS life from death, the extraordinary from the ordinary!

Perhaps I get ahead of myself, as we are still on the Lenten walk. But the certain knowledge that Jesus will overcome the Cross makes the path of 'paying attention' and repentance one lined not with thorns, but the petals of a rose.

In this time of contemplation and expectation, be bold in your introspection. Allow your soul to pour itself out through prayer, tears, wondering and wandering. Look at the hills that surround us in a different way, noticing the details of shadow, light and color; stare past the stars that fill the night skies, into the inky blackness that goes on forever. Let yourself feel small in the vastness of creation. Think of the infinite, and think, too, of the finite. Be. Dwell. Breathe.

What is all around us is a love that can't be grasped in a passing thought, or even an hour on a Sunday morning. It is, to use an overly coined word, 'awesome.' A love that defeated death, a reconciling life, an essence that binds all into ONE. What sweet surrender! Easter is coming! Any other day pales compared to this, the greatest gift.

Did I say thank you, and that I love you?

God's Peace, Peace, *Rev. Christine*



Chapel Jazz at Palm Springs Presbyterian Church!!

Inspiration and Improvisation! We are having jazz concerts every 1st and 3rd Sunday afternoons. Join us for afternoons filled with exceptional talent and fun. The concerts feature local and surrounding musicians. So save the following dates on your calendar: [March 3](#) and [March 17](#). On [March 17](#), we are excited to have the incredible Yve Evans!!! Regular concert suggested donation is \$10. special featured guest concert suggested donation is \$15. If you would like to be a part of the Chapel Jazz planning team or want to share ideas, call Mike Johnson or Gina Ross at [760-992-5783](tel:760-992-5783)



Message Following the Annual Meeting

At our annual meeting on Sunday, February 10th, and without dissent, members affirmed support for Pastor Christine' leadership and our support for Palm Springs Presbyterian Church. Discussion was short because the annual report had been available and distributed prior to the meeting. It was noted that PSPC has covered remarkable territory in the four years since moving into our "new" home here on Camino Real. The current challenge is to bring Christine's compensation up at least to Presbytery minimum and to wean ourselves from the use of savings (as in the past) to pay part of our monthly mortgage payment. To accomplish those twin objectives, a budget of \$195,000 was approved. This includes a "faith" amount of \$15-\$20,000, which will be raised from various sources, including operational savings, additional gifts from new and current members, activities at our beautiful church, and other sources. A hearty "Thank You" for this support! Now comes delivery!! There is room for all to participate. This article is the first of bi-monthly reports for the Sonshine. Let's all participate to help these reports show progress towards fully funding our faith budget. Bob Wulf, Administration Committee



BE BOLD
WHAT CAN WE DO?
WHAT CAN WE DO BETTER?
WHAT ARE YOUR IDEAS?
LET US KNOW
Don Shepherd, Elder

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The Southwest Trio
Chamber Music Concert
On Sunday, March 24th at 2:00 PM
Featuring L. William Kuyper, Horn
Pamela Shaffer Reinhard, Violin
Robert Miller, Piano
Free Admission



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.



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 meets on Tuesday at 9:30 AM. We are studying Genesis.

Yoga Classes Tuesday, 11:00 AM and Thursday at 5:30 PM (except on 5:59 Gathering Thursdays) in the Social Hall.

The following letter is from the Presbytery of Riverside and is edited to fit in the space.

Dear Christine,

Thank you for your service at the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church during this challenging time in the life of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. In addition I am writing to thank the Palm Springs congregation for the support of the Presbytery of Riverside. The congregation's consistent commitment to our connectional church is evident in the payment of the entire per capita apportionment in 2012. In addition, the Palm Springs Church, contributed \$2763.92 for mission support and special offerings. The Presbytery is grateful for your generosity. The congregation supports the Presbytery through the sharing of time and expertise by and members of the Palm Springs Church in service to the mission and ministry of the Presbytery and our churches, for which we are also thankful.

The Presbytery of Riverside rejoices in our partnership with the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, and we pray that together we bear witness to the grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely yours,
The Rev. Dr. Anita E. Hendrix,
Executive Presbyter



5:59 Gathering will be Thursday, March 28 at 5:59. This is Maundy Thursday and there will be a Tenebrae Service after dinner. Come and enjoy dinner and worship at PSPC.



There are no **Session Notes** this month.



Vanishing Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

1/2 C (1 stick) plus 6 T butter, softened
 3/4 C firmly packed brown sugar
 1/2 C granulated sugar
 2 eggs
 1 tsp vanilla
 1 1/2 C all-purpose flour
 1 tsp baking soda
 1 tsp ground cinnamon
 1/2 tsp salt (optional)
 3 C Quaker Oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
 1 C raisins

Heat oven to 350. In a large bowl, beat butter and sugars on medium speed of electric mixer until creamy. Add eggs and vanilla; beat well. Add combines flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt,; mix well. Add oat and raisins; mix well. Drop dough by rounded tablespoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until golden brown. Cool 1 minute on cookie sheets; remove to wire rack. Cool completely. Store tightly covered. Makes 4 dozen.

March

Bob Wulf	6
Dick Erickson	6
Micki Kristina Alston	24
Don Shepherd	25
Claire Vilhauer	25
Audrey Bergquist	27
Steve Lutke	28
Caryl Williamson	28



Daylight Savings
 Time begins at 2
 AM on Sunday,
 March 10. Be
 sure to set your
 clocks ahead on

Saturday night.





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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.

Pastor:

Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:

Alex Danson

Office Administrator:

Jim DeHart

Church Secretary

Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:

Jeff & Jackie Morgan



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.
