



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
April 2013

“Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.” Luke 12:27



Last month I reflected how the days were getting warmer; were we farther north, this would be a thing of wonder. But of course, for those of us who dwell in the desert all year, the advent of spring and coming summer signal many of the adjustments northerners feel as fall and winter approach: time for indoor activities, and being aware of the hazards of ‘inclement’ weather! Don’t despair, Seasonals, this message is for you, too! Because, even though the seasons change, and often our behavior with it, God’s love is constant, and even though you may be apart from us for a season, you remain a part of this – God’s family!

In the telling of God’s love for us, and in the comparison of God’s love for Creation, Jesus reminds us not only that we are loved for *who we are* – we are as splendiferous as Solomon – but how much MORE he loves us than the pieces of creation that bloom then pass away. In Christ, we are given eternal life, the result of a sacrifice of love and grace.

There is another kernel of wisdom in this tale, one of hope, beauty and bounty that arise from trust. From faith. That by *being*, by living as God’s creation, God’s people, we will flourish. That by being the body of Christ, each of us combining into the whole, who we are and what we demonstrate in our love and grace towards one another known and unknown will result in a splendiferous community of worship and praise!

Whew! I may be confusing even myself! We believe that we are ‘saved’ by Grace, not works. Jesus reminds us that we are loved not by ‘how we labor or spin’ but by the beauty found in us as beloved reflections of the Greatest Beauty. If we are faithful, it will be known, and our lives will be draped in riches that surpass the fleeting beauty of coarse wealth. That is not to say we do not or will not do good works, as we do and will by the nature of being God’s people. It is to say that as individuals we owe it to God to accept and acknowledge all that is given to us in the simplest of things, in the taking of a single breath of life. That we are beautiful, and powerful, and matter.

And, for the purposes of this Spring Message, that we of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, members, affiliates and friends alike, form a body that is beautiful, and powerful, and that matters. People often come through our doors because we are ‘cute.’ They stay because we are the lilies of the field, adorned by a generous love and emanating a generous warmth that belongs in the category of outreach and mission right alongside, well, what we call outreach and mission! It happens without much labor or spinning, it just ‘is,’ and should be. And it makes no difference if it is 35 or 110, indoors or out. It is love, received by us and commanded to us. For, as we are loved, we must love one another. As we continue to thrill in Easter’s miracle, let us recognize that miracle in our definition of Spring – renewed life; and creation – as those lilies so brilliantly dressed and pleasing to our Creator’s eye, we are born, and re-born, to live lives of infinite beauty, hope and prosperity.

In Christ, *Rev. Christine*



PIANO CAMPAIGN BEGINS!

We have been advised that our piano, which has faithfully provided wonderful music for several years, is on its last legs. There are problems with the 'felts' and major problems with the sound board. Put simply, we are in need of a new instrument!

To this end, the Session of PSPC has approved a 'Piano Campaign,' with the goal of purchasing a 'new' piano. At the same time, Pastor Christine and others are putting feelers out to see if anyone would like to donate a baby grand or grand piano to our church. We are hoping to acquire a quality instrument, over 5'10" in length (preferably around 6'2" or more as we have been advised this provides the quality of sound expected from this style piano). The cost of such an instrument can be at least \$15k and more, so we are taking our time to locate one that will last many years.

Any instrument offered will be meticulously inspected by experts to assure it has no damage. Please be assured that if you know of such an instrument and it is not 'chosen,' we are not being prima donnas, but do want to be cautious and responsible! Particularly here in our desert, pianos can be 'invisibly' damaged by the dry conditions.

All financial donations offered to this campaign will be dedicated to that purpose; should we be so blessed as to be gifted a fine instrument, excess funds will be set aside for our music program and overseen by Session.

Somewhere out there is a wonderful piano waiting to call PSPC home! If you know of an opportunity we can check out, please let us know! Between Sundays and our Classical and Jazz Concerts, it will be well used, cared for and appreciated. Dreams DO come true!

Donations to the campaign may be sent to Jim at the church office; except, of course, actual pianos in which case let one of our team and Pastor Christine know!

Thank You and God's Peace,
The Worship and Music Team (Susan, Alex, Jim and Christine)

Music

Chapel Jazz
at Palm Springs Presbyterian

The next jazz concert will be at 2 PM on April 21st featuring legendary trumpet player Steve Madaio. Steve has recorded with Stevie Wonder, The Who, Earth, Wind & Fire and hundreds more great stars. Suggested donation is \$10.

Music

Harp Concert
featuring Dr. Vanessa Sheldon
Sunday, April 14th at 3:00 PM

With The Desert Strings Harp Ensemble. This group is four harpists playing solo pieces and multiple harp pieces. It will include classical, popular and world music favorites arranged for one to four harpists. Suggested donation is \$10.

Music



The 2013 Women's Retreat on March 9th continued the tradition of a thought provoking program, a delicious luncheon and superb fellowship. Forty-four women attended the event. Jilleen was our featured speaker and she brought a youthful perspective to her program entitled "Emotional Wholeness". Music filled the air and her comments on some of our favorite hymns brought new insight to our appreciation of them.

The women on the Retreat Committee plus Pauline Gregg prepared the luncheon and the men of the church served it and did clean up. They were Jim Chabot,, Bob Coates, Jim DeHart, and Allen Perrier. They were so helpful. Thus all of the women could sit back and enjoy the program. It was announced that next years retreat will be on March 1, 2014. Michelle Telfer has agreed to be our speaker. Many will recall she did the 2012 Retreat and was such a great success that we have invited her to speak again. Our team has agreed to serve once more with the exception of Jan Perrier. Continuing on will be Kay Chabot, Charlene Coates, Kay Hansen and Gail Jones. We are seeking one or two additional members for the committee. Please let us know if you are interested. This year Polly Sippy and Phyllis Burrows served on the dining room decoration team. It looked lovely. Jackie Morgan designed a beautiful program. Jeff and Daniel Morgan ran the sound system for the day. Pastor Christine served the Lord's Supper, A family effort made a simply beautiful day. Thank you to all. *Gail Jones*



Rummage Sale



The time has come for yet another yard sale. We have the expectation of earning \$2000 or more. This gives additional money for important projects. It will be a one-day sale on Saturday, April 27th. Please set aside the items you want to donate. Items such as clothes in good condition, jewelry, accessories, collectables and larger items such as furniture. We will get help for pick-up of large items. We need lots of help.

Call one of the committee to indicate your ability to help. You may call either the office at 760-320-2769 or Don Shepherd at 760-340-9432.

Frosted Apple Spice Drops

from the kitchen of Emilie Warren
from PSPC Cookbook Love Feast

- 1/2 C butter
- 2/3 C white sugar
- 2/3 C brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/4 C apple juice
- 2 C flour
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 1 lg apple, grated
- 1 C walnuts, chopped



Cream together butter, white sugar and brown sugar. Beat in egg and apple juice. Sift together flour, baking soda, cinnamon and nutmeg and stir into mixture. Add grated apple and nuts. Drop by teaspoon onto greased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 for 12 minutes.

Frosting:

- 1/4 C butter
- 3 C powdered sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 3-4 T apple juice

Mix all ingredients together and top each cooled cookie.



April

Leslie Lutke	5
Jeff Morgan	5
Melissa Yezek	6
Kate Weezorak	15
Sue Cooper	18
Marilyn McMillen	20
Robert Kemp	23
Angie Hempy	27
Kay Chabot	27



You gave \$341.26 for the Bake Sale.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering was \$1560. Wow!! You are helping so many people with your generosity. Thank you.

Dear Believers, Thank you for your gift to the poor and homeless we serve. Your gift helps us provide food and services to "the least of these" The Well serves. You have believed the words of Christ in Matthew 25. May God bless all of you because you have honored Him. May the glorious light from heaven shine down on all of you. Wayne McKinney for The Well in the Desert



There were 313 people who attended the 8 AM and 10 AM services on Easter Sunday. Yea!



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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



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