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**Dan Reed and
Nicole Pesce
Friday, October 31
4:00 p.m.
in the Sanctuary**

Don't miss this fun-filled show that will surely send chills up and down your spine as Dan Reed and Nicole Pesce "trick or treat" you with some familiar Halloween favorites. No tickets required. A free-will offering will be taken.

**Annual Congregational Meeting, Part 1
Wednesday, October 29, at 4 p.m.
in the Sanctuary
(In-person and by Zoom)**

Action Items to be discussed:

- Election of Elders
- Election of Deacons
- Election of Nominating Committee
- Approval of Pastors' Compensation packages
- Other business as needed

(If you will be attending by Zoom, please sign up in the church office so that we can send you the link and agenda.)



**Sunday, October 12
Begins Fall Worship Schedule
with services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.**



From Pastor Jim



As the church came into being after the Day of Pentecost, Luke describes what the church was like. "The disciples devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many

wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." (Acts 2:42-47)

A little boy came home after his very first Sunday School class and Mom asked who his teacher was. Her son answered, "She was a real nice lady. I don't remember her name, but she must've been Jesus' grandma or something, because she didn't talk about anybody else all morning." ... It is obvious this woman was a devoted teacher and a devoted Christian. The question this story and Acts 2:42-47 asks us is: Are we as devoted? Do our actions and our conversation reflect our love for Jesus? Do our words and actions give away our relationship with the Savior? Is our faith visible to others?

This passage from Acts is a living snapshot of the life of the early church. It reveals her devotion and faith. It reveals what was central to the disciples' lives and the character of their discipleship. The passage says they were devoted. But to what? First Luke says, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching." I interpret that to mean they spent time in Bible study and worship. Both are very important aspects of our faith. We learn about and are drawn closer to God and become better disciples through Bible study and worship.

Luke then adds, "They devoted themselves to fellowship." This is an extremely important aspect of our faith. God created us to be in fellowship with one another. God did not create us to be alone. It is always easier when two people share the load. I think about the number of times I have set up tables for meals or meetings. While the tables being used were not very heavy, I must admit that it is a whole lot easier when someone helps with the task. It is the same with our faith. Fellowship through worship, through play, in work and in missions allows us to share the load with one another. And together we grow in faith.

Third Luke says, "They devoted themselves to the breaking of bread." This definitely deals with celebrating Communion, but it also deals with sharing of meals. I believe there is a very rich blessing that comes from sitting down across from a friend and fellow Christian and eating together. To me, it is almost sacramental. It reminds us of the meals Jesus shared with His disciples, especially the Last Supper.

Just think how much enjoyment there is when the Church gathers for a meal. Think how much love has been shared and given through those meals. Fellowship groups are an important aspect of the Church. They build up our faith and they feed the faithful. The early Church knew this.

Fourth, Luke points out, "They devoted themselves to prayer." Prayer keeps our hearts and minds on God. Try an experiment. Look around you and find five things that have blue in them. Go ahead. It did not take long, did it? With a "blue" mindset, you find that blue jumps out at you: a blue dress, a blue book, blue furniture and so on. Have you ever noticed how after you buy a new car, you start to see that make and color of car everywhere? That is because people find that for which they are looking. When we develop a "God" mindset through prayer, we begin to see God's work everywhere. The early Church devoted

Continued on page 12

From Pastor Linda



During this past week, the cooler evening temperatures have begun to return, and my night blooming Cereus has been celebrating by blooming each night. It is always such a joy to go out and gaze at those beautiful white trumpet blooms that last for only a

night. Each fall, as an act of faith, I plant bulbs and seeds in my garden. For me, it is a way of participating in the ongoing creation. For by digging, weeding, planting and pruning, we encourage new life to flourish.

Working in the garden is for me a time of Sabbath - of resting in God. As I plant, I remember verses of Scripture that have helped me grow. Each bulb or seed becomes a prayer. Every bulb or seed might not grow; we may never see the full harvest from which we have sown. But that should not discourage us from planting.

Jesus talks of our lives as being seed. Our lives produce something of real value only when we share what we have. We contribute a little here and there, until before long we are giving in a variety of ways. As we do, and as those seeds are planted, there are opportunities for new things to come to life. We may never see the fruit, but we have planted the seed.

Desert Palms is a place of dreams and hope. We hear God's call and we see what "could be" looks like. God shows us the potential. Jesus gives us the seed and the Holy Spirit works beside us as we plant. Just as the seeds of God's Word have rooted and grown in us, we plant the seeds in others and then water and nurture their growth.

An unseen dynamic happens when people come together because of Jesus Christ. If Desert Palms were not here, we would not have a group that gathers to make quilts or prayer shawls, we would not have groups gathering to rehearse anthems for Sunday morning or to discuss life issues in Bible study.

Our church has many opportunities that create a fellowship that provides everyone with the power for living. Although there are opportunities outside the church to experience fellowship, the church offers this experience as though we were branches that need to stay connected to the vine of God.

When we come together in worship, we recharge our spiritual batteries, but the real source of strength comes from serving as an Elder or Deacon, becoming a part of the choir, Turkey Day, Stephen Ministry, a mission project, the Men of the Church, Presbyterian Women, a Bible study, Habitat for Humanity -- and the list goes on and on.

The miracle present at Desert Palms is that few of us ever take for granted what we experience here. Through what each of you contributes in your time and talents and in your giving, your faith is made visible. It has been said that where there is no vision people perish. Where there is vision, people from all walks of life have the opportunity to plant seeds, to blend their abilities and financial resources, and as they do they produce a substantial magnet that attracts others to become part of a process that Jesus said would change the world.



From Faith Community Nurse Noelle



Sabbath Rest: God's Prescription for Burnout

By Noelle Wells,
Faith Community Nurse

"Come to me, all you who
are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

In our busy world, rest often feels like a luxury, or even something to feel guilty about. But from the very beginning, God modeled rest as not just important, but holy. After six days of creation, God rested on the seventh day, blessing it and setting it apart (Genesis 2:2-3).

As Desert Palms faith community nurse, I see firsthand how chronic stress, full schedules, and lack of rest impact our health - physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Fatigue can lead to anxiety, high blood pressure, immune system compromise, depression, and burnout. But Scripture gives us a countercultural command: **"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy"** (Exodus 20:8).

Sabbath rest isn't just about attending church (although that's a wonderful part of it!). It's about intentionally creating space in your week to stop, breathe, and reconnect - with God, with your loved ones, and with your own soul. True Sabbath invites us to:

- **Pause** from work and responsibilities
- **Restore** our minds and bodies
- **Delight** in God's creation and blessings
- **Trust** that God is in control, even when we stop producing

Tips for Practicing Sabbath in Your Life:

- **Set boundaries:** Turn off devices, decline non-essential tasks and make rest a priority.
- **Start small:** Even a few hours of intentional rest can be a step toward healthier rhythms.

- **Make it worshipful:** Read Scripture, listen to worship music, take a walk and thank God for His creation.
- **Include your family:** Rest can be a shared gift—unhurried meals, prayer together, playing games or just being present.

As fall ramps up and our calendars fill, I invite you to reflect on what Sabbath could look like in your own life. Where can you carve out time for stillness? How might God be inviting you into deeper rest—not just for your body, but for your soul?

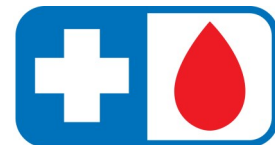
Remember: rest is not a reward for finishing your to-do list. It is a **gift** from a loving God who knows your limits and cares deeply for your well-being.

*"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul."
Psalm 23:1-3*

Blood Drive in Partnership with Vitalant

Tuesday, November 4

7:30 a.m. - Noon



GIVE
Blood

To make an appointment to donate sign-up online at vitalant.org (Sponsor Code: DesertPalmsPC) or contact Faith Community Nurse Noelle in the church office at 623-584-4602.

Caregiver Support Group

**Join us Monday, October 6,
at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.**

Caregiving is both a blessing and a burden. If you are caring for others at home, at a facility or for a neighbor, please join our Caregiver Support Group. This group offers a warm and caring time where you can share your story, find new resources and receive support.

This group is open to anyone. You do not need to be a member of the church to attend.



Fitness Fun

Participate in a fabulous exercise class that includes stretching, cardiovascular, strength training and balance.
Certified Instructor:
Coleen Burke



**Classes meet every
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
at 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall**

You must bring a large beach towel to cover your chair. Bring your own weights, resistance band and water. An annual disclaimer must be signed. Donations are necessary to sustain the offering of our classes.



Sun Health Presents Advancing the Science of Alzheimer's Disease

On Thursday, October 9, at 10:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, join Katie Skvarce, Communications Director for the Alzheimer's Association, Desert Southwest Chapter as she explains the remarkable strides in understanding how Alzheimer's affects the brain and learn how to make life better for affected individuals and families. Sign up during fellowship hour after worship or in the church office.

Navigating the Continuum of Care: *What Are My Options?*

The world of senior living and long-term care can be overwhelming. From Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs), Continuing Care at Home (CCAH) Programs to independent living communities or home care options, each path offers distinct advantages.

On Thursday, October 23 at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, come learn about all the available options so you can understand the benefits to each approach and identify which option is best for you. Sign up during Fellowship Hour or in the church office.

Cardio Drumming

Cardio drumming combines cardio exercise to the rhythm of music in an easy yet effective workout. It is a fun, fast-paced way to get your heart rate up, strengthen muscles and burn a ton of calories. You will need an exercise ball, a bucket large enough for the ball to fit and drumsticks.

Certified Instructor: Coleen Burke.

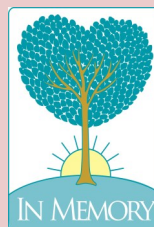


**Classes meet
every Monday,
Wednesday, and Friday
at 11:00 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall**

Celebrations of Life

Larry Ingersoll joined the Church Triumphant earlier this year. Please hold his family in prayer.

Phyllis Willis was welcomed home by God on September 22. Please hold her family in prayer. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Tuesday, October 7 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.



Kay Moffat joined the Church Triumphant on March 5. Please hold her family in prayer.



**Wednesday, October 15,
at 12:30 p.m. in Room B**

We will begin our season with new ideas and projects. Also, we will discuss yarns and other tools we use. Mark your calendars so we can meet together with old and new friends.

"Do ordinary things with extraordinary love."
Mother Theresa

Grace,
Carole Jean Soine



book of the
Month

**Friday, October 17, from 10:30-11:30 a.m.
in the Music Room**

The featured book for October will be:
My Friends by Fredrik Backman
(FICTION BafMx)

Four teenagers with difficult home lives create a bond so powerful it changes a stranger's life 25 years later.

Titles are on a seven-day loan until after the discussion date. Everyone is welcome to attend these informal discussions.

For information about this program contact Janet Neese at 623-546-9124.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
623-584-4602

Lost and Found

There is a lost and found box in the church office. If you lose something, please check this box.



*"For though the righteous fall seven times, they
rise again."*
Proverbs 24:16

How High Can You Count?



Well, our grandson has been able to count to 100 since before he started kindergarten, although he never seemed to like (or perhaps remember!) the number 16! No matter how many times they would count with him, and they would say the number 16, he would forget it again once he counted on his own! If you really want to know

numbers, holy cow, the Bible is the place to be! One, one true God. Three, the Trinity. Twelve, the twelve Disciples. Forty, Jesus fasted for forty days and nights in the desert. I'm sure Pastor Jim and Pastor Linda could go on much more than me, BUT, numbers are important to the Angel Bees as well! We now have 98 quilts made and ready for the Holidays! Jim, does 98 mean something??!

Come see our latest quilt after the Angel Bees' Saturday workday! If you find one that speaks to you, we do have a donation program that allows you to take it with you!

Blessings,
Pamela Weir

Upcoming Angel Bees Schedule:

**Sewing Days at 8:30 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall**

Saturday, October 11
Saturday, November 8

Article Deadline

Please submit your November Newsletter articles by Tuesday, October 21. Please turn in your articles to the church office or email them to jennifer@desertpalmschurch.org



Book of Confessions Study

Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. in Room A
Beginning October 1

"Confessions of faith are first of all the church's solemn and thankful response to God's self-evaluation, expressed with a sense of responsibility to be faithful and obedient to God. Secondly, in a confession of faith members of a Christian community seek to make clear to themselves who they are, what they believe, and what they resolve to do." (*Confessional Nature of the Church Report, The Book of Confessions*)

The Book of Confessions is *Part 1 of the Constitution of the PC(USA)*. Each Sunday, during worship, we affirm our faith together by reading an affirmation of faith, usually taken from *The Book of Confessions*. The creeds, confessions and catechisms are both historical and contemporary. Each emerged in a particular time and place in response to a particular situation.

This is your special invitation to come and learn more about each creed, confession and catechism that is a part of *The Book of Confessions*. Facilitated by the Rev. Mike Campbell, classes will begin Wednesday, October 1 at 2:00 p.m., in Room A.

New Biblical Bible Study

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Beginning October 30

Looking for a place to grow in your faith, ask big questions, and connect with others on a deeper level? We're launching a new Bible study and you're warmly invited to be part of it.

- Come as you are
- Dig into Scripture
- Build friendships



Topic: One Hit Wonders. We will look at the five books of the Bible that are just one chapter.

Whether you're brand new to Bible study or you've been in the Word for years, this is THE class for you. Let's explore God's Word together - one verse, one conversation at a time.

We can't wait to see you there! Please register by texting Helen Devantery at 303-881-6329.



Quilting Ministry

The Quilters have been busy, even through the summer. Last May, we sent 30 quilts to the United Cerebral Palsy of Arizona organization. This group offers comprehensive service to individuals with disabilities and their families by providing physical and development support as well as educational growth both for adults and children.

In July we delivered 12 quilts to Eve's Place. They provide services on the Navajo Nation.

In the future, we will be sending our quilts, along with the Angel Bees, to the **Sleep in Heavenly Peace** program. This is a charity providing hand-made bunk beds to children who don't have beds of their own. The beds are entirely built from scratch by volunteers at events called Build Days. When they are delivered and assembled in the home, they are complete with mattresses, pillows, sheets and pillowcases, and -- a quilt! **SHP** has multiple locations throughout the country and we are proud and excited to become a part of it.

Our group meets twice a month on the first and third Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. We would love to have some help – no sewing experience needed. A few more ladies working with us will allow us to offer more quilts to SHP. For more information, please call Joan Nahass at 623-584-4700.

Paint Class

Thursday, October 30
10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room



Join Nurse Noelle and Julie Larsson, Community Relations Director at The Ridges at Peoria, for a fun and free painting class. The class will consist of a painting tutorial and discussion of the benefits of creative artistic expression and socializing. She will bring all the materials. The class will last about 1.5 hours and space is limited. Sign up in the church office or contact Nurse Noelle.

Stewardship Campaign

Our DPPC 2026 Stewardship Campaign commences on October 19. In this stewardship season, we have selected from 1 Corinthians 13:13 our theme to be "Making Faith, Hope and Love Visible." Love is the governing principle that controls all that God and his redeemed people are and do.

Your financial support makes it possible for the many to do what individuals cannot do alone. Receiving your estimated financial support for 2026 will help us in preparing our budget. We are asking our generous congregation to listen for God's guidance in prayerful reflection and commit to our 2026 Stewardship program with estimates of giving. Just ask God and he will show you the way. In recognition that God has motivated each of us by love, we will be holding a Commitment Sunday on November 9 to receive and bless our giving commitments.

Our 2026 theme serves to recognize that God is love, and commands us to love one another. We accomplish that in differing ways, and all we have and all that we are is a result of God's grace. Please prayerfully consider the many blessings you have received, the talents you have been provided and how thankful you feel. And with prayerful consideration, complete your 2026 Estimate of Giving Card and return it to the church on or before Commitment Sunday on November 9.

Cards may be placed in the Sunday offering plate, dropped at the Church Office, mailed to the church, emailed to dppc@desertpalmschurch.org, submitted online via Realm Connect, or submitted online from our website desertpalmschurch.org.



We Love and Need... USHERS!

For each Sunday service, we need seven ushers in addition to the Lead Usher. Please sign up to usher for any service where there is a need. Ushering is an easy and fun way to greet and meet your fellow members and guests while serving a vital DPPC function.



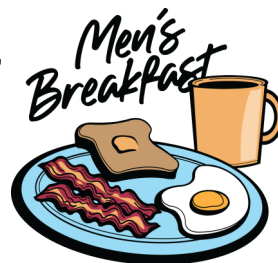
Sign-up is easy. Go to the DPPC website → click "Serve" → click "Sign Up to Usher" → scroll to the date you want to usher and click "Sign Up" and at the bottom, "Save and Continue" → add your name and email, then click "Sign Up Now". If the computer is not your thing, just call the office and someone will help.

If you are a member of a DPPC group looking for a church project, consider your whole group taking on ushering for a week or a month.

Ushering is an easy and fine way to serve our Lord's church. All you need is a bright smile and sunny disposition. We'll show you the rest. **We need you.**

Men of the Church

The next Men's Breakfast is on Tuesday, October 21, at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Each month we will enjoy a wonderful breakfast prepared by Echelon Catering. A dynamic speaker will inform and inspire us concerning opportunities and happenings in our community and world.



In October, Larry Cervarich, Executive Director for Just Ask, will be our guest. Just Ask's mission is to unify an alliance of churches, first responders, and community leadership throughout the West Valley to support critical needs of our community. Come and learn more about this wonderful outreach program. Please sign up during Fellowship Hour on Sundays or in the church office. Cost of breakfast is \$7.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

PW MEETING AND CIRCLE UPDATES

Bible Study Briefing

Lesson 2
Monday, October 6,
at 8:30 a.m. in Room B

Circle Leaders Coordinating Team Meeting,

Monday, October 6,
at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel

To all Desert Palms women: If you are not in a Circle and would like information, please stop by the PW table on Sundays. We will show you the Circles and meeting times. From September through May, we meet monthly for the Bible Study lesson, have fellowship, and support members who have concerns. It is a perfect way to study the Bible and make new friends.

October 2025 PW Circle Meetings

All PW Circles welcome visitors and new members. Just call one of the hostesses listed below if you would like to join in this month.

Esther

Meets the 2nd Monday of the month,
October 13, at 9:00 a.m., Room B.
Contact person: Nancy Zaitlen

Lydia

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month,
October 8, at 10:00 a.m., Room B.
Contact person: Sue Christopher

Martha

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month,
October 8, at noon, Room A.
Bring your lunch.
Contact person: Marilyn Keizer

Phoebe

Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month,
October 9, at 12:00 p.m., Room A.
Contact person: Linda Boman

Rebecca

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month,
October 8, at 9:00 a.m.
in the Conference Room.
Contact person: Carole Jean Soine

Save the Date! Monday, December 8, 2025

2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Service of Holy Communion



Come for a very special service and learn about the meaning of the Chrismons that we display each Christmas. Chrismon is the combination of two words: CHRIST and MONogram. A Chrismon is a symbol of Christ. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

We will dedicate the **Thank Offering** and we will celebrate Holy Communion.

Changing Families with a Circle of Love

By Carole Jean Soine

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

--Hebrews 11:1

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church is in Sun City West, Arizona, which is a large retirement community. Less than a 15-minute drive from Sun City West is El Mirage, a town founded by migrant farmworkers in the 1930s. In the 1960s, the Dysart Community Center was established in El Mirage to offer support to families experiencing poverty. The early volunteers identified educational programs as a key way to support individuals and their families. Dysart continues to nurture families and children by offering programming focused on education. The Mission Committee at Desert Palms has chosen to support Dysart Community Center through financial support, material donations, and volunteers.

Presbyterian Women of Desert Palms and the broader congregation have donated children's books, puzzles, coloring books, crayons, games, and other educational items. Children attending the after-school programs and day camps at Dysart have been able to enjoy these items. Our Mission Committee has helped provide money for children to attend day camp during the summer.

Dysart Community Center also offers English classes, GED classes, and U.S. citizenship classes for adults. Staff at the Center emphasize that education will help individuals obtain greater employment, and that this progress lifts not just the family, but the community. Educational and life-skills training for West Valley families are the goals of the Center.

At Desert Palms, we believe that serving others is the best way to share God's love--"a true circle of love from all at



Desert Palms Church." Helping families and children is not only the vision or our mission, but a step up for these hard-working families. Last June, with our



Dysart Community Center, Before & After-School Program

Pentecost Offering, which was for children, a transport scholarship provided four children from the same family transportation to school. They had been walking two miles each direction. The family was very grateful.

Annie Ansell, the executive director of Dysart Community Center, states "This center has many challenges. Practical and thoughtful support has helped to meet the needs--to accomplish the Center's everyday miracles, and Desert Palms Presbyterian Church has been part of that support."

In the words of the PW Purpose, "We commit ourselves to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom." This is truly our goal, and we rejoice that we can share God's love with others to create a better world.

Carole Jean Soine serves as vice moderator of Presbyterian Women at Desert Palms Presbyterian Church in Sun City West, Arizona.

PEB Update

Thank you for lifting up Pakistan in your prayers during this time of devastating flooding. While the crisis continues across Punjab, we are grateful to share that all PEB schools and students remain safe.

Nearby communities are still reeling--hundreds of thousands have been displaced, and recovery will be long and difficult. Yet within our campuses, many children returned to classrooms on September 1, to learn and grow in places of safety and hope. Our schools in Sialkot, Pasrur, and Kasur are scheduled to resume classes on September 8, provided the flooding does not worsen.

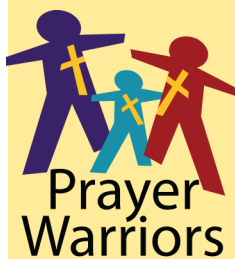


We ask you to please keep praying:

- For floodwaters to recede quickly and prevent further loss of life
- For strength and protection for families facing hardship and displacement
- For continued safety over our schools, students, and staff

Your prayers and faithful support mean so much. In a season when so many are facing overwhelming challenges, your love for the children of Pakistan is a light that cannot be hidden.

Prayer after Worship

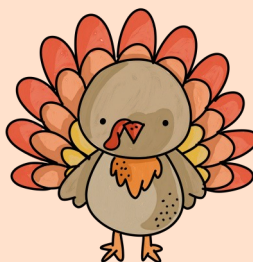


The Spiritual Life and Growth Committee is seeking people who would be available after the Sunday Worship Service to pray with people who come forward to share a joy or concern.

If you enjoy praying with someone one-to-one, to support someone who needs to share and who would benefit from sharing in prayer, please contact Jennifer in the church office or sign up at the Volunteer Opportunities table during the Fellowship Hour. This is a very rewarding way to show the love of Christ to others.

Turkey Day Saturday, November 22 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

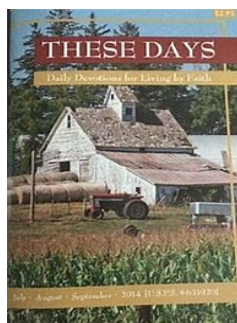
Plan now for Turkey Day, a very special day in the life of Desert Palms Presbyterian Church. That's the day - the Saturday before Thanksgiving - when members of the church and community come together to provide more than 200 frozen turkeys, nonperishable food items and cash for the hungry and underprivileged of our area.



The money and food we provide go to help support the Agua Fria and Valley View Food Banks. DPPC volunteers are needed to work in two-hour shifts: 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. and 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to collect food from cars, count and distribute food items, and load the trucks. A table for sign-ups will be hosted in Fellowship Hall in November.

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." 1 Peter 4:10

Daily Devotionals

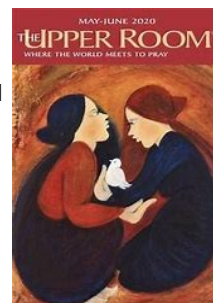


Desert Palms encourages everyone to spend time in the Word of God each day. One way to do this is by using a devotional.

These devotionals can be found on campus in our kiosks or by inquiring at the reception desk. Both

regular and large print are available.

If you are unable to stop by the church to pick up a copy, we would be happy to mail you one. Send us an email at: dppc@desertpalmschurch.org, or call the church office at (623) 584-4602.





Christ caring for people through people

**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

*"I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?'
And I said, Here am I; send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)*

In attempting to find a meaningful life, we try many things; crafts, work, education, attending cultural events and exercise -- which are all important activities to give meaning and purpose to our lives. When we belong to God's family, we look for ways to serve others as Christ has served us. Are you looking for a way to serve or answer God's call? Stephen Ministry could be just what God has in mind for you!

Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. Through Stephen Ministry training, you will gain insight into the thoughts, feelings, and actions of people who are hurting; and you will develop relational and caring skills you can apply to all aspects of your life. After training you will be matched with a care receiver which is the start of a caring relationship that might be just a short period or could last several months or longer. This depends on the care receiver's needs.

A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour. Stephen Ministers gather with their Stephen Leaders monthly for supervision and continuing education. This one-on-one ministry is very important to our congregation and will benefit both the care receiver and the Stephen Minister caregiver.

If you are feeling down, lonely, stressed, or discouraged, perhaps you could benefit from the support and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. For more information about requesting a Stephen Minister or for Stephen Ministry Training, please contact Pastor Linda, Kathe Cochrane, or Carole Jean Soine.

themselves to prayer which focused their attention upon God. Soon they saw God in every aspect of life.

That leads to the question: "Has Jesus made a difference in your life?" That is basically what life boils down to, isn't it? Faith is about what Jesus has done in our lives. Living the faith is about what WE do in response to what Jesus has done in our lives. The early church, as described here in Acts, devoted themselves to God through Christ. To what have you devoted yourself? Some folks devote themselves to their jobs or to making money. Some folks devote themselves to their family. Some folks devote themselves to living a life filled with material possessions. I am not saying that jobs, family and things are bad or evil. When put in their proper context of a life devoted to Christ, these things can enhance one's life. But it is the context in which they are pursued that makes the difference. Only Christ can give new life. Everything else falls short. Only Christ gives meaning and purpose that will last for all eternity.

The early disciples were devoted to God. Their lives reflected that devotion. People saw the risen Christ in their relationships with one another, in their cooperation, in the way they cared for each other, in their worship, in their study and in their giving. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." ... "And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." This passage challenges us and asks us: To what or whom are you devoted? Do others see the likeness of Christ in your actions? Are others invited to accept Christ through the witness of your life? Do you exemplify the Christian life with a "glad and generous heart?" I hope you do because God desires that we make our faith visible to others every day.

Directory Changes

Please contact the church office.

Lew Mohler

Tom and Mary York





World Communion Sunday October 5, 2025

"We trust in God the Holy Spirit...Who...feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation..." These words from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, reiterate the importance of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper for Presbyterians. They affirm that the initial action of this divine meal begins with God. God in Jesus the Christ offers the bread and the cup and bids us come. It is the Lord's feast, hosted by the One who promises an ultimate continuous feast in the Kingdom of God. Under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit the divine host is made present so that a bond of unity can exist among those present and those unseen.

On Sunday, October 5, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. Did you know that World Communion Sunday is a gift of the Presbyterian Church? In 1933, the first celebration took place at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, with the Rev. Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr serving as pastor. Dr. Kerr first conceived of the idea of World Communion Sunday in 1930 when he was serving as Moderator of General Assembly.

His younger son, the Rev. Dr. Donald Kerr, (pastor emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore) was sixteen in 1933. He has shared that World Communion Sunday grew out of the Division of Stewardship at Shadyside. It was their attempt to bring churches together in a service of Christian unity - in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information as well as to know how important the Church of Jesus Christ is, and how each congregation is interconnected. Donald Kerr said, "The concept spread very slowly at the

start...It was during the Second World War that the spirit caught hold, because we were trying to hold the world together. Worldwide Communion symbolized the effort to hold things together in a spiritual sense. It emphasized that we are one in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Celebration of Worldwide Communion Sunday was adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1936. Churches in other denominations were invited to celebrate with us from the beginning, but the process didn't become widespread until 1940 when the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches promoted extending the celebration to churches around the globe. Today, World Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world, transcending boundaries of denomination, geography, and language. Let us gather around the Lord's table and entrust our lives to the one who holds the world together, giving generously to the work and witness of Christ through the life of the Church.

Text adapted from resources available at www.pcusa.org/worship.

(Thanks to the Rev. John A. Dalles who researched the history of World Communion Sunday. Thanks to Davitt S. Bell (the late Clerk of Session and church historian at Shadyside.)

Coffee Servers Needed



We're looking for friendly faces to help serve coffee on Sunday mornings! This is a simple but

meaningful way to welcome others and create a warm, hospitable environment for our church family and guests. If you enjoy connecting with people, we'd love to have you join the coffee server team.

No experience needed! Sign up at the volunteer opportunities table in Fellowship Hall after worship or contact the church office.

Meet Our Staff: Robert Schmidt Sexton



Meet the newest member of our custodial staff, Robert Schmidt. Robert was born in Red Bank, New Jersey in 1986. When he was four years old, he and his family moved to Wittman, Arizona.

Robert attended and graduated from Centennial High School in 2005 (in the top 15 percent of his class)! He has always enjoyed skateboarding, but he really wanted to be a storm chaser. He spent many hours photographing storms (lightning, dust, and flooding). He loves pizza, reality TV, and his pet rabbit, Mr. Cuddles.

He is engaged to his fiancé, Alicia, and they have been together for sixteen years.

He previously worked as a custodian at a Methodist Church in Sun City, where he was employed for about ten years. After that he worked as a box truck driver for Valley View Food Bank, while also delivering for Door Dash. Then Robert saw the ad for the custodian position at DPPC and the rest is history.

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church New Member Gatherings

Are you interested in becoming an Active or Affiliate Member? Just complete the form below and we will contact you.

This form may be placed in the Offering Plate on Sundays or brought to the Church office.

Our next New Member Gathering is:
Sunday, October 12, 2025

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____



**Questions? Please call the
Church Office at 623-584-4602.**

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2025 Eight Months	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Total Income	\$952,747	\$876,950
Total Expenses	\$786,246	\$827,806
Net Income (loss)	\$166,501	\$49,114

God continues to bless our church, both spiritually and financially. August financial results were slightly below planned. Contributions for the month were \$14,000 better than planned and were \$75,000 greater than planned year to date. Expenses for August were \$13,000 greater than planned due to three payrolls during the month. Expenses were \$41,000 better than planned year to date. The resulting Net Income remains nicely ahead of planned year to date. If you have not already contributed \$41 per person, please remember to support our Per Capita responsibility.

Our Endowment investments have continued to grow. Our year to date growth through August is 10.8% and our trailing 12-month growth is 15.8%.

We are doing very well through these summer months with our Operations cash position currently at \$412,000. Be sure to take advantage of qualified charitable distributions from your IRA so that you don't pay taxes on the amount of your distributions.

Please remember the church in your will. You can also designate the church as a beneficiary on specific financial accounts as an alternative approach.

Charlie Green,
Chair, Financial Affairs Committee





OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS

1 Lee Mattke
 3 Karen Byers
 Betty Jane Jones
 4 George Lund
 5 Pam Thompson
 6 Sue Watson
 Dale Cooper
 Kathy Dashiell
 7 Nina Lundin
 Lee Thompson
 Cordaine Mitchell
 Jesse Hock
 Linda Leafstedt
 8 Jan Sebзда
 Beth George
 9 Linda Longley
 10 Sandy Warmuth
 11 Bob Kuhn

12 Don Wilks
 13 Sandra Beyer
 14 John Lawson
 Aleta Basso
 15 Diane Lovitt
 Bonnie Russell
 Mike Cate
 16 Eva Ketzenbarger
 17 Phil Main
 Joanne Coburn
 Frederick Anderson
 18 Barb Smith
 Dennis Dreikosen
 Eileen Bump
 19 Joan Braucht
 20 Nancy Rodich
 Barbara McKendall
 Missy Whitehead

21 Irene Fiet
 23 Bill Benfield
 Rick Kress
 24 Betty Estes
 Pat Giles
 Marcia Vorlicky
 26 Marillyn Chaulk
 Jane Heck
 27 Norm Fiet
 Linda Boman
 Lou Rouyer
 28 Betty Heig
 Judy Poff
 Shirley Kosikowski
 Kathy Loudon
 29 Lore Van Brocklin
 Dan Brown
 Laura Temple
 31 Judy Milligan
 Jeff Downing
 Pat Martin

If you do not find your
 birthday or anniversary
 listed, please let the
 church office know. We
 would like to recognize
 you during your
 special month.



OCTOBER

ANNIVERSARIES

7 Al and Linda Brown
 14 Gail and John Hafer
 18 Wayne and Laura Nemetz
 19 Marla and Tom McLean
 Sandy and Denny Martinson

21 Mark and Donna Steidl
 22 David and Jayne Schlemmer
 Mike and Jan Woodward
 Lew and Sandi Evans
 30 John and Mary Lawson
 31 Craig and Patti Cross

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church
13459 W. Stardust Blvd.
Sun City West, AZ 85375-2548

Lord, we thank you for:

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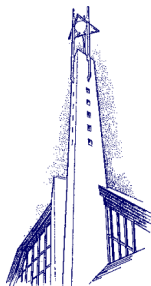


***Desert Palms Presbyterian Church
Mission Statement***

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church
proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
enables people to grow in their faith and
empowers them to share God's love among our
congregation, our community and the world.

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church

The Rev. James W. Crelin, 3rd, Head of Staff
The Rev. Linda J. Bailey, Associate Pastor
Wendy Fentiman, Director of Music Ministry
Judy Penick, Worship Accompanist
Noelle Wells, Faith Community Nurse
Amy Wall, Church Administrator
Jennifer Baldisseri, Ministry Assistant
Patsy Boman, Finance Assistant
Tammy Follensbee, Administrative Assistant
Susan McGrath, Sexton
Tony Gonzalez, Sexton
Robert Schmidt, Sexton
Dan Chaney, Head Audio and Video Technician-Coordinator
The Rev. Stanford L. Burtless, Jr., Associate Pastor Emeritus



The Palms is published monthly and is currently emailed and on the web page.

Worship services are held in person and via livestream on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. through the first Sunday in October. Starting October 12, we will resume two services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The Church Office is open 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church

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Facebook: **The Desert Palms Presbyterian Church**

The Palms is published for church members and friends.