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## **SOUNDS OF SUMMER CONCERT AND LUNCHEON**

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

### **NICOLE PESCE, DAN REED, AND GREG VARLOTTA**

**Worship at 9:30 a.m.**

**Concert at 10:45 a.m.**



Be sure to join Nicole Pesce, Dan Reed and Greg Varlotta, three very talented, multi-instrumentalists, in a concert like no other. This concert will feature styles that include everything from Dixieland, to jitterbug, waltzes, jazz, and even Boogie-woogie. There might even be a special "Polka" in honor of Oktoberfest!

Front and center is Greg Varlotta, enjoy his spectacular abilities on the trumpet, trombone, sousaphone, guitar, and more. And don't forget, he tap dances too! Dan Reed will feature his impressive skills on the trumpet, flugelhorn and maybe even a kazoo! And then, of course, pianist, composer and arranger, Nicole Pesce will accompany them on the piano, keyboard, accordion, and there might be a new keytar in the works!

A free-will offering will be taken. And a luncheon will follow the concert at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets for lunch are \$10 per person and must be purchased by Tuesday, September 23. They may be purchased in the church office or in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays beginning September 7.

# From Pastor Jim



As Simon Peter neared the end of his physical life, false teachers were attempting to draw Christians away from the faith by promoting false doctrines. So, Peter was determined to remind believers of the genuineness of their calling and the doctrine they had come to understand (2 Peter 1:13-15). I, in my own pastoral role, seek to do what Peter did.

Peter was a highly respected minister at the time he wrote this letter. He had a wealth of experience, having been personally taught by Jesus Christ and having been present at the seminal events in the early history of the Church of God. Undoubtedly, Peter's credential-packed resume empowered him to speak authoritatively against false teachers while at the same time seeking to build up and inspire disciples of Jesus in their calling and faith.

Peter boldly called out the misguided people (false teachers) for their ungodly teaching and conduct. They were bringing into the church "destructive heresies" that permitted people to live "according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness" (2 Peter 2:1, 10). So, Peter encourages committed believers to focus on growing spiritual maturity by building upon seven character traits which he mentions in 2 Peter 1:5-7. Let us consider Peter's list. I find it helpful to compare translations. I have chosen two, but you may wish to read others.

The NRSV reads, "For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love."

Same verses but now from the KJV, "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity."

Welsh pastor, Rev. Lloyd-Jones, preached on these verses noting the difference between a Christian whose whole life seems utterly

ineffective and a Christian whose life is effective and life-giving is discipline. The apostle Peter gives specific instruction for discipline, because there is more to the Christian life than just believing the truth. Faith doesn't just work automatically in your life. We must apply energy to our faith the way we would to our vocation. We must supplement our faith, thus Peter offers his readers an expanding list. Peter says, "Add to your faith." Another version says, "supplement it," and another says, "furnish it out."

This Greek word which means to "add to" or "furnish" is a word that was used in connection with the performance of a drama. It means providing a kind of orchestra or chorus. In so doing, you furnish the performance with something extra that rounds it out and makes it a perfect performance. So, when we deliberately add to our faith Peter's list of attributes which includes: virtue (moral energy), knowledge (spiritual enlightenment), temperance (self-control), patience (long endurance), godliness (relationship to God), brotherly kindness (relationship to others), and charity (love towards those who are outside the faith) - we have amplified our faith so that it is not a life without music the way a drama would be presented if it had no orchestra or chorus. It is far more effectual and life-giving to have the fully-furnished faith, just as it is to have the fully-furnished drama.

None of us will become perfect in observing all of Peter's traits in this life. But that doesn't mean we should not aim to become perfect. One of the identifying marks of true Christians is that they are continually striving to develop these characteristics in their lives. In fact, after giving this description of spiritual maturity, Peter added: "For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ ...Therefore, brothers and sisters, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things then you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (verses 8, 10-11).

Let's continually strive to grow in the characteristics of spiritual maturity Peter highlighted in 2 Peter 1:5-7!

# From Pastor Linda



In the Old Testament we remember God's voice is heard, not in the wind, or the earthquake, or fire, but in a gentle whisper. (1 Kings 19:12) God speaks to us through the burning bush and through the voices of God's prophets. We remember God's words

to us, "Be still, and know that I am God."  
(Psalm 46:10)

John, in the beginning of his first letter, tells us about Jesus this way: "We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life - this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us - we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." (1 John: 1-3) God with us.

The metaphor that Paul frequently uses for who we are in Christ is that we are sisters and brothers. Jesus has said that anyone who hears God's word and follows it is his sister, or brother. Jesus' vision of community was that of family, and the invitation that is ever before us with Christ is the invitation to relationship – relationship with one another as much as with him and with the God who created us. Jesus' invitation is to live as one family in relationship with and caring for each other.

John Powell tells of a statue of Jesus that was discovered after World War II in the shell of a bombed-out church in Germany. The figure of Jesus was portrayed in this statue as reaching out to the world, but with all the destruction caused by the bombing, the hands were broken off. For a long time afterward, the statue without hands stood untouched. There was a sign placed on the outstretched arms: "He has no hands but your hands." Each one of us as the church is a member of his body. We are called to continue the work of Jesus, and to loving this troubled world into new life.

There have been so many times when I have gone to visit someone in the hospital or in a care facility, that I have found one of you already there – bringing the love of Christ. Whenever you write a card to a friend or call someone to brighten their day, or reach out to a neighbor, you are making love visible. As a community of faith, we never know who we touch with our smiles, whose conflicts we help resolve and whose loneliness is dissolved because of our friendship. God's spirit heals in ways we may never know.

In all the journeys we take and all the adventures we experience, may we never forget that the spirit of our doing is what preserves our peace. As we approach the fall season, there are many ways that you can help in the life of the church. I invite you to stop by the Volunteer Opportunities Table on a Sunday after worship, and see how God might be leading you to use your time and talents.

Listening to God is an ongoing experience. It is being aware of God's continual presence in our lives and becoming aware of all the ways in which God is calling us to reach out to others in our families, in our communities and in our world. Paul calls it walking in the Spirit. In the words of Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, "There are many ways of sharing, but God's Spirit gives each one. There are different ways of caring; it's one Lord whose work is done. God, whose gifts are overflowing, may we hear you when you call; keep us serving, keep us growing for the common good of all.





# From Faith Community Nurse Noelle



## Honoring and Serving Shut-Ins in Christ's Love

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church is a lifeline for many senior adults who may be widowed, unable to attend in person due to circumstances out of their

control, or those who have lost countless friends or loved ones as years pass by.

An older widow confided that the hugs she received each Sunday at church were the only ones she got all week.

Those who are no longer able to attend worship services often lose a vital sense of community, connection, and purpose. Additionally, many others live as shut-ins at home. Health and transportation issues make it difficult or impossible for them to attend church in person. Isolation takes a toll on these individuals - socially, emotionally and spiritually. We can make a big difference by reaching out to them. We must take the initiative and meet them where they are at. It is an opportunity to demonstrate Christ's love in a very real way.

In fact, Scripture compels us to care for the hurting and lonely among us. James 1:27 says, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

### Small Gestures

Ministry to shut-ins isn't about grand productions as much as small gestures that let people know they still matter. In every community, there are people who cannot leave their homes or care facilities. Thus, the Church must meet them where they are.

Keep in mind six simple ways of sharing Christ's love.

1. *Listen*. When visiting shut-ins, plan to spend time listening to their life stories. Ask about their childhoods, careers, military service, hobbies, families, achievements, and faith testimonies. Active listening communicates

that you genuinely care. Listening builds relational connections and trust. I feel honored and blessed to hear the stories of those I visit.

2. *Share*. Bring a gift, note, or food treat for each person you visit. Acknowledge birthdays and holidays with cards and decorations. Even the simplest gift can go a long way toward helping someone feel seen and loved. Celebrating fun moments together grows bonds of fellowship and contributes to a sense of thriving and belonging.

3. *Sing*. Many shut-ins love to worship. You don't need a great voice or full worship band to lead them. Simply open a hymnal and sing together, with or without the accompaniment of a piano or acoustic guitar. I've seen frail and confused elderly people come alive as they experience the Holy Spirit's powerful presence amid worship.

4. *Read Scripture*. God's Word is powerful in every season. Throughout a believer's life, hearing the truths of Scripture helps him or her keep growing in faith.

5. *Pray*. Seeking God for the needs of those you visit reminds them they are not alone. Not only do they have friends who care, but they also have a loving God who hears and answers prayers.

6. *Make a connection*. Never underestimate the power of a friendly hug or gentle touch on a hand. Numerous studies have documented the need for human touch. Yet affectionate touch is missing from the lives of many shut-ins.

Jesus emphasized the importance of visiting and caring for the sick, vulnerable, and lonely. In His Parable of the Sheep and the Goats, Jesus said, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).

There are lonely people in our church who are waiting for someone to break through their isolation with the light and love of Jesus. Let's be that light to someone this week!

-Nurse Noelle

Excerpts of this article taken from <https://influencemagazine.com/Practice/Ministry-to-Shut-ins>

## Caregiver Support Group

**Join us Monday, September 8,  
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.



## Celebrations of Life

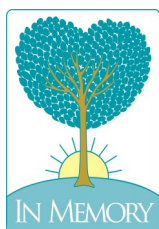
**Duane Peterson joined the Church Triumphant** on July 31. Please hold his family in prayer.

**Jon Bassi was welcomed home by God** on August 11. Please hold his wife, Sara, and family in prayer.

**William (Russ) Pyle was welcomed home by God** on August 12. Please hold his wife, Heidi, sister-in-law, Kathy Dashiell, and family in prayer.

**Don Swanson joined the Church Triumphant** on August 20. Please hold his wife, Linda, and family in prayer.

**Andrew (Drew) Morgavan was welcomed home by God** on August 22. Please hold his wife, Kathy Loudon, and family in prayer.



## Sun Health Presents Debunking Food Myths

On Thursday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, join Sun Health's Nutritionist, Sarah Fagus, to learn about nutrition, how to tell the difference between myths and facts, and which foods make up a healthy, balanced diet.

Sign up during fellowship hour after worship or in the church office.

## 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.

## 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**

## Directory Changes

Please contact the church office.

**Leota Gainey**



## Upcoming Angel Bees Schedule:

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

Saturday, September 13  
Saturday, October 11

## Bingo Wednesday, September 17, at 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Join Pastor Jim for “Bingo, Pastor Jim’s Way” on September 17. Join the fun, meet people, get out of the heat and into the air-conditioned space of Fellowship Hall.



Refreshments will be provided, and prizes can be won. Please sign-up for this event in the Fellowship Hall after worship or in the church office.



## Wednesday, September 17, at 12:30 p.m. in Room B

Fall is arriving - Our meeting in September will be special. This will be fun to gather together and share our ideas and crafts for the coming year. All are welcome!

### *Morning Prayer*

I got up early one morning  
and rushed right into the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
that I didn’t have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,  
and heavier came each task.  
“Why doesn’t God help me?” I wondered.  
He answered, “You didn’t ask.”

I wanted to see joy and beauty,  
but the day toiled on, gray and bleak;  
I wondered why God didn’t show me.  
He said, “But you didn’t seek.”

I tried to come into God’s presence;  
I used all my keys at the lock.  
God gently and lovingly chided,  
“My child, you didn’t knock.”

I woke up early this morning,  
and paused before entering the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
that I had to take time to pray.

Any questions, please contact Carole Jean Soine

## Summer Movie Night Wednesday, September 24, at 4:30 p.m.



Bring your own dinner. Popcorn, dessert, and beverages will be provided. Movie begins at 5:00 p.m. Sign up during Fellowship Hour or in the church office to help us plan for refreshments. **Please note the earlier start time.**

### Article Deadline

Please submit your October Newsletter articles by Sunday, September 21. Please turn in your articles to the church office or email them to [jennifer@desertpalmschurch.org](mailto:jennifer@desertpalmschurch.org)



book of the  
*Month*

## Friday, September 19, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Music Room

The featured book for September will be:  
*Blood to Rubies* by Deborah Hufford.  
(FICTION HorBlo)

The struggle of westerners moving to tame the Oregon Territory against the Native Americans’ sacred relationship to nature. A factual rendering of the near genocide of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce Indians.

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.

## Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 1, for Labor Day. Have a safe and happy Labor Day Weekend!



## 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.



Christ caring for people through people

**STEPHEN  
MINISTRY**

## A Ministry of Compassion and Caring

In Matthew 25:35, Jesus says, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." We have many opportunities to respond to Jesus' great love by showing that love to others. Stephen Ministry is one way our congregation shows that love to people who are going through a difficult time.

Stephen Ministers listen, pray, explore feelings, maintain confidentiality, share Christ's love and attend to the caregiving process. It is a ministry of presence and companionship that is confidential and compassionate. After receiving intensive training, our Stephen Ministers are assigned a caregiver with whom they meet once a week for about an hour.

Stephen Ministers benefit through the spiritual growth they experience from being involved in meaningful ministry and they will tell you that God brings forth new life and renewed faith in both the care receiver and the Stephen Minister. If you are going through a difficult time and could use the gift of a caring friend, contact Pastor Linda, Kathe Cochrane or Carole Jean Soine.

## Men of the Church

Our Men's Breakfast returns on Tuesday, September 16, 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 September, Joe Genovese, of Sleep in Heavenly Peace, will be our guest. Joe and his colleagues started the program seven years ago and have been overwhelmed by what God has done. Sleep in Heavenly Peace is one of our new mission partners. Please sign up in the church office. Cost of breakfast is \$7.

## Per Capita

### ***What is Per Capita? How much is it? How is it used?***

The Presbyterian Church (USA) has strong foundations. The US Constitution used much of the written documents of the Presbyterian Church as its foundation. The Presbyterian Church is organized with a General Assembly at the top, then several Synods, next are multiple Presbyteries, and then lots of local churches. And we are all governed by the same foundational principles.

What if a pastor retires or moves to a different church? The foundation of the Presbyterian Church is organized to provide interim pastors, work with congregations on how to organize and manage the search for a replacement pastor. What if an individual wants to become a pastor, attend seminary, and complete the process of becoming ordained in a local church? The foundation of the Presbyterian Church has a defined process and structure to ensure qualified candidates for ordination are vetted and assimilated into that church. What if there is a local, national, or global disaster where immediate help and support is needed? The foundation of the Presbyterian Church has the tools and funds available to provide immediate response.

There is a long list of activities the broader Presbyterian Church provides to every local church. Per Capita is a means by which each member of the local churches contributes financially to maintain and improve upon this foundation. We are not often aware of the value of Per Capita, but it is there all the time – especially when we need it.

Desert Palms Church is very supportive of Per Capita. In January 2025, we paid \$22,793 in support of the broader Presbyterian Church. We recognize the benefits to our church and request that each member do the same with a designated Per Capita contribution of \$41 per member, or \$82 per couple. Only half of our members regularly make that additional contribution, which is above and beyond your annual estimate of giving to the operations of the church. As a result, we are running \$10,000 behind the amount we pay for Per Capita. We truly appreciate the Per Capita contributions that many members continue to make. If you have not already sent a separate check or online contribution designated specifically for

Per Capita, please consider making that contribution. We would like to eliminate the \$10,000 deficit in the Per Capita account.

Again, we thank you so much for your ongoing contributions towards our Operations account and ask that you prayerfully consider contributing towards the Per Capita fund if you have not already done so.

Charlie Green, Chair  
Financial Affairs Committee

## Rehearsals Resume

### **Chancel Choir rehearsals resume:**

Thursday, September 4,  
at 1:30 p.m.  
in the Sanctuary.



### **Choral Ensemble rehearsals resume:**

Tuesday, September 30, at 3:00 p.m.  
in the Chapel.

*Choir Practice Resumes*

### **Handbell Choir rehearsals resume:**

Wednesday, October 1, at 1:30 p.m.  
in the Music Room.

## 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.**





PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

## PW MEETING AND CIRCLE UPDATES

### Bible Study Briefing

Lesson 1

Tuesday, September 2,  
at 8:30 a.m. in Room B

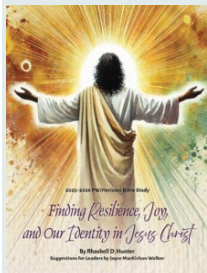
### Circle Leaders Coordinating Team Meeting,

Tuesday, September 2,  
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.*

## Presbyterian Women's Breakfast Meeting

Tuesday, September 23  
At 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall



We will begin our program year with Pastor Linda providing an overview of our new Horizons Bible Study, *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by Rhashell D. Hunter.

Breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the program to follow. Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletin. Sign up will begin in the church office and during Fellowship Hour on Sundays soon.

## September 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month,  
September 8, at 9:00 a.m., Room B.  
Contact person: Nancy Zaitlen

### Lydia

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month,  
September 10, at 10:00 a.m., Room B.  
Contact person: Sue Christopher

### Martha

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month,  
September 10, at noon, Room B.  
Bring your lunch.  
Contact person: Marilyn Keizer

### Phoebe

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month,  
September 11, at 12:00 p.m., Room A.  
Contact person: Linda Boman

### Rebecca

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month,  
September 10, at 9:00 a.m.  
in the Conference Room.  
Contact person: Carole Jean Soine

## 2025 Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Southwest

October 24-26 at the  
Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, AZ

### *Connecting in Love through Our Stories*

Come join in a weekend of worship, education and fellowship with PW sisters from around the Synod of the Southwest. Rev. Dr. Rhashell Hunter, author of the 2025-2026 *Horizons* Bible Study, will be our keynote speaker and a workshop leader. There will be workshops to renew our spirits and engage our hearts and minds, reminding us of our connection to God, the church and each other.

Registration forms are in the church office.

## Meet Our Staff: Tammy Follensbee Administrative Assistant



We'd like to welcome Tammy Follensbee to our Staff! Tammy joined us in June as the Administrative Assistant, whose primary responsibilities include creating and overseeing projects such as the Annual Report, Membership Directory, and many other church brochures and publications, as well as backing up other staff members in their roles.

Tammy was born in Minneapolis, but moved to Arizona in 1969 for her dad's job. She graduated from Greenway High School. She moved to Maryland with her first husband who was in the military. They then moved to Germany and lived there for a total of six years. She came back to Arizona and had jobs as an accountant before finding her passion. She graduated from ASU with a degree in Family and Human Development and worked at All Saints Lutheran Church in Phoenix for 15 years. She started as the Wedding Coordinator and completed her time there as Director of Senior Ministries. Her latest position was with Lutheran Social Services in a program devoted to finding resources for the homeless. Unfortunately, the program lost its funding, and she became unemployed in March.

Fortunately for us, she saw a position posted for Desert Palms and she was drawn to working in a church environment again. The part-time position is perfect for her, because it gives Tammy ample opportunity to pursue her other passion - quilting. She learned her quilting skills from the quilting group at her church and is in the process of starting her home quilting business.

She is a big fan of the Chicago Cubs and the Greenbay Packers. Tammy is a member of All Saints Lutheran Church and is a Stephen Ministry Leader there. She is married to her husband Mike, and they have a son, Michael, who is a senior in high school. Tammy has four children with her first husband, and four grandchildren.

Tammy is quite happy to be in our church environment, with so many friendly people and great volunteers. She is pleased to have found a work/life balance. We are very fortunate to have such a talented addition to our staff!

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2025 Seven Months	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Total Income	\$888,646	\$827,600
Total Expenses	\$677,955	\$733,177
Net Income (loss)	\$210,691	\$94,423

God continues to bless our church, both spiritually and financially. July financial results were better than plan, with contributions for the month \$21,000 better than planned. Contributions were \$61,000 greater than planned year to date. Expenses for July were \$5,000 better than planned. Expenses were \$55,000 better than planned year to date. The resulting Net Income remains nicely ahead of planned year to date.

We are doing very well as we continue through these summer months (when we tend to receive fewer contributions) with our Operations cash position currently at \$452,000. 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

**YOUR GIVING  
MATTERS!**

## 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.



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.

- 1 Sheila Olmstead
- 2 Kay Moffat  
Nanette Clark  
Gary Seright
- 3 Al Brown  
Alana Massey  
Doug Pumphrey
- 4 Joan Nahass  
Glenn VanEnk  
John Bowles
- 6 Norma Laity  
Jane Willis  
Vicki Johnsen
- 8 Marla McLean  
Duane Williamson  
Carol Yacobbian
- 10 Capi Francis  
Freez Friesenborg  
Bob Tjeerdsma  
Kay Kernek  
Lee Weir

- 11 Jim Heig
- 12 Shirley Sysum  
D'rae Freyermuth  
Cheryl Haywood
- 13 Phyllis Willis  
Jean Heins
- 14 Linda Bailey
- 15 Carol Hammond  
Lee Wilson  
Pat Bradach
- 16 Fred Hiemstra  
Glenda Miles  
Howard Poch
- 17 Pat Jackson  
Beverly Burnett
- 18 Mary Mathiason  
Gayle Clark
- 19 Linda Gamborg

- 20 Bob England  
Carolyn Hayes  
Linda J. Miller
- 22 Cathy Crelin  
Joan Schill
- 23 Larry Ingersoll  
Dori Ward
- 24 Tom York  
Sandy Pippen  
Sandi Evans  
Arlie Freiborg
- 26 Gordie Walls  
Charlie Green  
Jayne Schlemmer  
John Bergstrom  
Craig Cross
- 28 Pat Manning
- 29 Ornetta Bergstrom
- 30 Jerry Mattke

- 2 Bill and Charlotte Schneidewind  
Jerry and Karen Koester  
Dave and Caroline Poling
- 3 Jack and Bonnie Wood
- 4 Carol and Don Faunce
- 5 Corinne and Gary Wilson  
Randa and David Strom  
John and Bev Schneider
- 7 Jim and Cathy Crelin  
Norma and Ron Rickman
- 9 Judy and Roy Carpenter
- 12 Kevin and Karen Rufolo  
LeRoy and Linda Weisser  
Harvey and Judy Gray
- 15 Walt and Barb Baturka  
Rick and Pat Kress  
Pat and Shelley Giles



- 16 Jim and Sue Christopher  
Howard and Sharon Poch  
Debi and Bruce Williams
- 17 David Wilson and Bonnie Boyce-Wilson
- 20 Dave and Dori Ward
- 24 Jerry and Marilyn Keizer
- 29 Peter and Anne Rowison
- 30 Samir Shoukralla and Donna Haubrich-Shoukralla  
Nancy and Gene Doiron



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

*Lord, we thank you for:*

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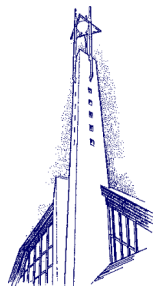


***Desert Palms Presbyterian Church  
Mission Statement***

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, 3<sup>rd</sup>*, 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.**

**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.