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# **Sounds of Summer Concert**

## **All-Star Trio + Friends**

**Sunday, September 27**

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

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

**Luncheon at 12:00 p.m.**



The All-Star trio is back with another multi-instrumental extravaganza show, along with some special guests! Greg Varlotta, Dan Reed, and Nicole Pesce reunite for more musical magic, and this time they're inviting drummer extraordinaire Dowell Davis and the eloquent saxophonist Mary Petrich to join in on the fun! There will be a free-will offering.

Following the concert, there will be a luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Tickets for lunch are \$10 and must be purchased by September 22. You can sign up for lunch in Fellowship Hall after worship on Sundays, in the church office during the week, or online by visiting the events tab at [desertpalmschurch.org](http://desertpalmschurch.org).



# From Pastor Jim



Jesus, in His Sermon on the Mount, described His followers: “You are the salt of the earth.” (Matthew 5:13) What might Jesus have had in mind when He used this metaphor?

As we think about it, there were three purposes for salt in the first century - preserving food, enhancing flavor and symbolizing covenant. Jesus may have had in mind all three of these purposes.

By using this salt metaphor, Jesus may have meant that His disciples are called to be “preservatives” in the world, slowing down the advancement of moral and spiritual decay. Psalm 14:3 says, “All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.” Christ’s followers are to preserve truth and goodness in a fallen world.

Salt also was used as a flavor enhancer. Jesus may have been instructing His disciples to “enhance” the flavor of life in this world - enriching its goodness, projecting a positive attitude and making God’s work stand out from the secular way of doing things. As Christians behave in ways that reflect God’s nature, they accentuate the difference that Jesus makes in one’s life.

In the Old Testament, God also commanded the Israelites to use salt in certain sacrifices as a symbol of His covenant with them. For example, Leviticus 2:13 reads, “Season all your grain offerings with salt. Do not leave the salt of the covenant of your God out of your grain offerings; add salt to all your offerings.” Here, salt symbolizes loyalty and commitment.

Perhaps Jesus was not pointing to one specific application, but to salt in a general sense of value and usefulness. In those days, salt was a valuable commodity (the word salary comes from an ancient word meaning “salt-money”). Perhaps Jesus was telling His disciples how important their ministry would be.

Of course, the value of salt lies in its effect. Salt makes an impact. After telling His disciples that they are the salt of the earth, Jesus goes on to say, “But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.” The question is “Can salt become less salty?” Strictly speaking, no. Sodium chloride is a stable compound and can’t become less of itself. What was Jesus saying then? There are several possibilities:

- 1) Jesus may have been referring to the “salt” that was collected from the Dead Sea by evaporation. The substance resembled pure salt, but it wasn’t effective for preservation or for seasoning.
- 2) Jesus could have been referring to the rock formations in which people would store their meat. Once the salt leached out of the rocks, the rocks were no longer effective to preserve the meat.
- 3) Others have speculated that Jesus was referring to the salt blocks that bakers used in their ovens. Eventually the heat would make these salt blocks useless.
- 4) Yet others think Jesus was referring to a saying of the time: “Can salt lose its saltiness?” This is a rhetorical question because salt cannot become less salty. True disciples of Jesus cannot lose their saltiness. They are new creations and completely changed. Someone who says, “I am a Christian,” but does not have faith in God is an imposter and is to be “thrown out and trampled underfoot” because they have no effectiveness.

With these words, Jesus teaches us that we are valuable in our role as disciples of Christ. God uses us to impact the people around us. Whether we are slowing down the moral decay or enhancing the spiritual “flavor” of the world, God has created us to be a positive influence. As followers of Christ, we are called to be different by living righteous lives.

# From Pastor Linda



September brings a new pace to our lives. Meetings that have been on summer break will begin to meet again. The fall season brings new opportunities, new beginnings. There is always a sense of excitement and anticipation for what the fall season will bring! September

is a great time to begin a new routine of devotion, worship and reading Scripture. Take some time to read about God's promises in Scripture to help you face each week with God's strength and courage and to listen for God's call in your life.

Finding peace in today's contentious and troubled world may seem an impossibility, but Scripture advises us to "seek peace and pursue it." (1 Peter 3:11) Remember Colossians 3:15-16, "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom..."

As a community of faith, we ground all that we do in a total devotion and centering in the love of God. When we receive the love and grace of God as if it is our very breath and life. When we center our life in God and savor the words and life and vision of Jesus Christ our Lord, our trust is so profound, so deep, that our external environment will not affect the quality of our spirits. As we grow in relationship with Christ, we live into fullness and grace. We are created in the "ruach" of God entering our bodies. The word "ruach" is the Hebrew word for breath, wind, spirit. It describes an active, powerful, life-giving, life-directing force. The Spirit provides us with resilience in times of suffering. Wherever you are in your life today, Christ can breathe the Holy Spirit into you and regenerate your life for the better. Allow Christ to infuse you with this power. Open yourself up to the peace and joy that Christ can offer.

Scripture overflows with stories of Spirit-filled people: Remember Abraham and Sarah who heard the Spirit calling them to leave their hometown and take a journey of faith. (Genesis 12:1-5) When the Hebrews escaped through the Red Sea, Miriam (riding high on the Spirit) grabbed her tambourine and danced for joy. (Exodus 15:21-22) When Hannah learned that God had answered her prayer for a child, she was swept up by the Spirit, singing praises to the Holy One. (1 Samuel 2:8) Solomon experienced God's Spirit as wisdom and insight. The Gospels tell us that Jesus experienced the Spirit as a loving affirmation which descended upon him at his baptism like a dove. In a vision (Acts 10:34-36) Peter had his heart enlarged by the Spirit's vision of God's expansive love. To be filled by the Spirit means to be inspired, led, guided, empowered by the Spirit of God. The Spirit lives in each of us and there is never a dull moment when we give ourselves over to the Spirit of God. Take time this week to appreciate God's gift of the present moment.

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 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



## Your Body Is Listening

A cardiologist once observed that two patients could receive essentially the same medical news and respond very differently. One leaves the appointment making plans and asking

questions; the other goes home and spends days unable to think about anything else. Neither response necessarily means one person is stronger or has more faith. Our bodies respond not only to what is happening physically, but also to what we believe is happening.

That is why a racing heart does not always mean something is wrong with the heart. Sometimes it means we have received frightening news. A stomach can tighten before a difficult conversation, muscles can remain tense when we anticipate something unpleasant, and sleep can become elusive when our minds are occupied with a problem we cannot solve. Our bodies are constantly interpreting the world around us.

But what happens when the body begins responding not only to what is happening, but to what we *expect* might happen?

Someone who has lived through years of medical uncertainty may eventually find every unfamiliar sensation concerning. A headache becomes a reason to worry. A tired afternoon becomes evidence that something is wrong. A routine appointment can produce anxiety before anything has actually happened. The body has learned to pay attention, and sometimes it becomes very good at it.

This is where health and faith meet in a way that is more complicated than simply telling ourselves to “think positive.” Faith does not require us to ignore our bodies. We should pay attention to symptoms and seek appropriate medical care. But Scripture also asks us to consider what fear has taught us about the future.

When Jesus asked His disciples, “Why are you afraid?” He wasn’t asking because there was

nothing frightening about their circumstances. They were in a boat during a storm. The wind and waves were real. Their fear made sense. His question was deeper: *What had they concluded about their situation?*

There is a difference between recognizing danger and assuming that danger has the final word.

As we grow older, we know how quickly life can change. We have seen friends become ill, experienced loss and sat in waiting rooms. Wisdom tells us to pay attention. Faith tells us we do not have to live in permanent anticipation of what might happen next.

If your knee hurts, deal with the knee. If your blood pressure needs attention, address it. If you need a medical test, have the test. But if nothing is wrong today, perhaps we do not need to spend today rehearsing everything that could go wrong tomorrow.

The goal is not to become fearless. It is to become less governed by fear. Perhaps that is one of the most practical expressions of trust in God - not pretending that life is safe, but refusing to spend the life we have been given today living inside the possibilities of tomorrow.



## Game Day

**Wednesday, September 16**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall**

Join Pastor Jim for Jeopardy on September 16. Join the fun, meet people, get out of the heat and into the air-conditioned space of the Fellowship Hall.

Refreshments will be provided, and prizes can be won. Please sign up for this event in the Fellowship Hall after worship, in the church office, or online on our website under the Upcoming Events tab.

## Caregiver Support Group

Join us Monday, October 5  
at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

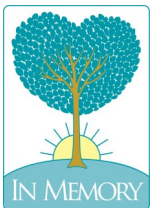
**Due to the Labor Day  
holiday, we will not meet  
in September.**

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



**Annie (Nan) Fraser was welcomed home by God** on August 7. Please hold her sister, Jeanie Ralston, and family in prayer.

**Jim Easter joined the Church Triumphant** on August 13. Please

hold his family in prayer. A Celebration of Life service will be held at The Heritage at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 11.

**Joe Jelinek was welcomed home by God** on August 23. Please hold his family in prayer.

**There will be a Celebration of Life service for Taunce Mathiason** on Saturday, September 5 at 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Grief  
Support  
Group



Here at Desert Palms, a supportive group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. If you have experienced a major loss and would benefit from the support of a caring fellowship, please consider this your personal invitation to attend. Even if you are not able to feel God's presence, God is very close to you and working to fill your life with new blessings.

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



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.

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

**There will be no classes on Monday,  
September 7.**

## 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

**There will be no classes  
on Monday, September 7.**



## Sun Health Presents: Arthritis 101

On Thursday, September 10, at 10:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, Dr. James Mackenzie from Arizona Sports Medicine Center will discuss what arthritis is, common signs and symptoms, and simple ways to protect your joints. He will also share treatment options.

Sign up during the fellowship hour after worship, in the church office, or online by visiting the Upcoming Events tab at [desertpalmschurch.org](http://desertpalmschurch.org).

## Thank You!



Have you noticed the beautiful floral arrangements in the sanctuary recently? I wish to thank Laura Temple for coming forward to accept the position of floral decor. She is doing a beautiful job. If you see Laura, please take a moment to greet her and offer praise for a job well done. Thank you Laura!

If you wish to help with the flowers, especially during Easter and Christmas, please feel free to contact me.

Linda Boman  
Chair of Spiritual Life and Growth

## Directory Changes

Please contact the church office.



**We will meet Wednesday, September 16,  
at 12:30 pm in Room B.**

Our ideas and plans will be discussed as well as our projects and new ways we can continue this year with a mission of our varied gifts. The hymn we sang recently, *We All Are One in Mission*, will be our call to service to witness Gods name.

As Presbyterian Women, WE WELCOME,  
WE WITNESS, WE WORK AND PLAY,  
PUTTING FAITH IN ACTION IS WHAT WE DO.

All are welcome. Come join us - we love visitors!  
Questions or concerns, just give me a call.  
Blessings to each,  
Carole Jean Soine

## Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on  
Monday, September 7, for Labor Day. Have a  
safe and happy Labor Day Weekend!



*"Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,  
and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes,  
establish the work of our hands!" Psalm 90:17*

## We Are Happy Bees!

You know when you start something and you have so much time you don't want to stop? Well, that kind of happened with our Stripping! We found so many different things to do with the strips, and we had LOTS that had been donated to us. We took random strips that were all kinds of different colors and lengths and turned them into beautiful quilts! I hope you stopped by our table in August and looked at our work. We are not having a table in September, but will again in October. Just so you know, if you find a quilt that you think is perfect for a grandchild or someone special, or a perfect Christmas gift, talk to us about the option of a donation in exchange for the quilt. Just sayin'...Christmas is right around the corner!

See you in church!

Blessings,  
Pamela Weir

## Upcoming Angel Bees Schedule:

**September 12 – 8:30 a.m.**  
Sewing day in Fellowship Hall

**October 10 – 8:30 a.m.**  
Sewing day in Fellowship Hall



## Future Planning Committee (FPC) September Update

We promised we would keep you updated on the work of the FPC through the Palms!

DPPC has a 10-year financial plan in place, and the FPC is looking to do the same. The age layers of our church are missing the younger layers. Look at these numbers:

- (18.7%) About 19% of us are between the ages of 90 and up.
- (39.9%) About 40% between 80-89.
- (28.8%) About 29% between 70-79.

If you do some quick math, that means that roughly 88% of our congregation is over the age of 70. To continue to survive, we must be better balanced. We want new members of all ages, but we need to add younger people.

We started by gathering data through committees, but that made us realize how much we needed to hear from all of you! *We want you to share your thoughts and ideas, so in September, there will be a survey for everyone to complete!* It will come to you in the same manner as you receive the monthly newsletter. It's not a survey like we all get in the mail that we either toss away, or we finish in 2 minutes. This survey is important and we want you to work on it when you can commit some prayerful time to share your thoughts. You love this church and have helped to make it such a special place, and we know that you want it to be here long after we are all gone! *This survey is an investment of about 15 minutes of your time, but your thoughts can help guide the future of the church.* Your church!

We just wanted to remind you that we are not looking at taking anything away! We are looking at strengthening what we have, enhancing things while finding ways to attract members in the lower age categories.

We also want to let you know that we have retained the professional services of a Christian organization that helps churches that are working on future vision planning.

Stay tuned for more details to follow.



## Ways you can SERVE

### Ushers and Greeters



One of the simplest and most meaningful ways to serve our church is by being a friendly face at the door. We're looking for volunteers to help greet and usher during worship, offering smiles, directions, and a spirit of hospitality to everyone who comes to church.

You don't need special skills - just a welcoming heart and a willingness to help others feel at home. Whether you can serve occasionally or more regularly, your presence makes a difference.

*For more information call Linda Boman.*

### 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! *If you are interested, call the church office and ask for Jennifer.*

### Prayer after Worship



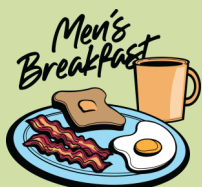
The Spiritual Life and Growth Committee is seeking people who would be available after the Sunday Worship Service to pray with people who come forward to share a joy or concern. If you enjoy praying with someone one-to-one, to support someone who needs to share and who would benefit from sharing in prayer, *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.

## DPPC Shirts Are Coming Back!

DPPC logo polo shirts are back! Orders will be taken on Sundays in September in Fellowship Hall once the sample shirts are received. Both men's and women's shirts will be available. Stay tuned for more specifics!



## Men of the Church



The next Men's Breakfast is Tuesday, September 15, at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, with a wonderful catered breakfast. Our guest speaker will be Cricket Barrientos, the founder of Sounds of Autism. Their mission is to safely integrate families and children with autism or others at risk back into society with unconditional love and support.

Please sign up during Fellowship Hour on Sundays, in the church office, or online at our website under the Upcoming Events tab. Cost of breakfast is \$7.

## Desert Palms Presbyterian Church New Member Gathering

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 will be at **11:45 a.m. on Sunday, October 11.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Choir Rehearsals Resume

God has blessed all of us with so much. Perhaps you have been blessed with a musical talent or interest. What better way is there to show your gratitude to God than by becoming part of the musical leadership at Desert Palms?



If you are interested in participating in the music at Desert Palms, please speak to our Director of Music Ministries, Wendy Fentiman by e-mail [notesbywendy@aol.com](mailto:notesbywendy@aol.com) or by phone 623-640-6450.

The rehearsal schedule is below. If you are interested in other music opportunities at Desert Palms, please speak to Wendy.

### Choir Rehearsals Are Starting!

**Chancel Choir** – Thursday, September 10,  
1:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

**Choral Ensemble** – Tuesday, September 29,  
3:00 p.m. (Chapel)

**Handbell Choir** – Wednesday, September 30,  
1:30 p.m. (Music Room)

*Let's all praise the Lord with music!*



**book** of the  
*Month*

**Friday, September 18,  
from 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
in the Music Room**

The featured book for September will be:  
*Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi  
(FICTION LdThe)

A stranger visits a local coffee shop and starts buying pencil portraits on display.

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.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

## PW MEETING AND CIRCLE UPDATES

### Bible Study Briefing

Lesson 1

Tuesday, September 1,  
at 8:30 a.m. in Room B

### Circle Leaders Coordinating Team Meeting,

Tuesday, September 1,  
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 22  
at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall



*United Through Christ,  
Bound to Each Other*  
Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

We will begin our program year with Pastor Linda providing an overview of our new *Horizons* Bible Study, *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians* by Rhonda Mawhood Lee.

Breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the program to follow.

Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletin. Soon you will be able to sign up online on the church website under the Upcoming Events tab, on Sundays after worship in Fellowship Hall, or in the church office during the week.

## September 2026 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 14, at 9:00 a.m., in Room B.  
Contact person: Judith Hoye

### Lydia

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month,  
September 9, at 10:00 a.m., in Room B.  
Contact person: Sue Christopher

### Martha

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month,  
September 9, at noon, in Room A.  
Bring your own lunch.  
Contact person: Marilyn Keizer

### Phoebe

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month,  
September 10, at noon in Room A.  
Contact person: Linda S. Miller

### Rebecca

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

## 2026 Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery Fall Gathering

September 25-26 at First Presbyterian  
in Leupp, AZ in the Navajo Nation

### *Bind Us Together with Love*

Come join in a weekend of worship, education and fellowship with PW sisters. There will be a bus leaving DPPC on Friday, September 25, at 10:00 a.m.. We will spend the night at Roadway Inn, in Winslow. Saturday will be spent at Leupp. Registration is \$25. More information and registration forms are available in the church office or you can register online at [www.azpresbyteries.org/gc-presbyterian-women](http://www.azpresbyteries.org/gc-presbyterian-women).



Christ caring for people through people

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

*"O Christ, you are a bright flame before me, you are a guiding star above me, you are the light and love I see in others' eyes." (Celtic Prayer)*

In our search for a meaningful life, we may try many things: crafts, work, education, attending cultural events...all of which are important activities that 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? Stephen Ministry might be the answer. The basic philosophy of Stephen Ministry is that someone who is walking a difficult path shouldn't have to do it alone; that having a companion on the way, someone outside of the family dynamics, can make the journey more bearable, whether it's a chronic illness, transition to retirement, a bereavement, empty nest, divorce, or some other challenging life experience.

Stephen Ministers are simply Christians with a heart for care. They receive 50 hours of training in active listening, focusing on process rather than goals, keeping confidentiality, and tapping into Christian resources. At the end of the training a Stephen Minister is commissioned and when someone expresses a need for additional support, they are matched with a suitable Stephen Minister for care. The relationship is confidential and individual, and the Stephen Minister meets with the care receiver, usually for about an hour once a week, in person or virtually, for as long as needed. The Stephen Minister listens, reflects back what they are hearing, does not try to fix or solve, prays with and for the care receiver.

A Stephen Minister is not a therapist, nurse, or housekeeper. During the year, Stephen Ministers meet with a peer group to debrief on their own experience of ministry and to receive continuing

education. They do not share details of their care receivers but focus on what they need in order to be effective carers. Stephen Ministers will tell you that being a part of this ministry has helped them to grow in their own faith, becoming more confident in their ability to pray aloud and to make a difference in someone's life. Desert Palms is grateful for all those who have made this commitment to a ministry which strengthens our community in countless ways.

If you, or someone you know, is facing a crisis and could benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister, talk with Pastor Linda, Kathe Cochrane, or Carole Jean Soine. Or if you would like to learn more about what is involved in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Linda.

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

| 2026 Seven Months | ACTUAL     | BUDGET    |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|
| Total Income      | \$719,810  | \$788,853 |
| Total Expenses    | \$736,495  | \$757,660 |
| Net Income (loss) | (\$16,685) | \$31,193  |

July income was quite a bit below plan by \$33,000 and behind year-to-date plan by \$69,000. This was a surprise to be this far behind on contributions. July expenses were greater than plan by \$9,400 and under year-to-date plan by \$21,000. The result of these variances is that our year-to-date Net Income is below plan by \$47,878. We experienced 3 payroll expenses vs the normal 2 payrolls in July which accounts for \$27,000 of the variance.

The value of our Endowments invested at Vanguard continues to experience fluctuations. The month of July valuation was breakeven for the month. Our year-to-date results are close to a 6.7% increase while our 5-year growth remains strong at a 13.0% increase in value. Fluctuations will continue.

Please remember the church in your will or trust or add the church as a beneficiary to accounts at your financial institution.

Charlie Green,  
Chair, Financial Affairs Committee



- 1 Sheila Olmstead
- 2 Nanette Clark  
Gary Seright
- 3 Al Brown  
Alana Massey  
Doug Pumphrey
- 4 Joan Nahass  
Glenn VanEnk  
John Bowles
- 6 Norma Laity  
Jane Willis  
Vicky Johnsen

- 8 Marla McLean  
Duane Williamson  
Carol Yacoobian
- 10 Capi Francis  
Bob Tjeerdsma  
Kay Kernek  
Lee Weir
- 11 Jim Heig
- 12 Shirley Sysum  
D'rae Freyermuth  
Cheryl Haywood
- 13 Jean Heins
- 15 Carol Hammond  
Lee Wilson  
Pat Bradach
- 16 Fred Hiemstra  
Glenda Miles  
Howard Poch
- 17 Pat Jackson  
Beverly Burnett  
Ray Moore

- 18 Mary Mathiason  
Gayle Clark
- 19 Linda Gamborg
- 20 Bob England  
Carolyn Hayes  
Linda J. Miller
- 22 Cathy Crelin  
Joan Schill
- 23 Dori Ward
- 24 Tom York  
Sandy Pippen  
Sandi Evans  
Arlie Freiborg
- 26 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 John and Bev Schneider
- 7 Cathy and Jim Crelin  
Norma and Ron Rickman
- 9 Roy and Judy 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
- 25 Mike and Marylou Cate
- 29 Peter and Anne Rowison
- 30 Samir Shoukralla and Donna Haubrich-Shoukralla  
Nancy and Gene Doiron

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.



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

*Lord, we thank you for:*

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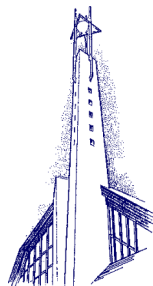


***Desert Palms Presbyterian Church  
Mission Statement***

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*, Custodian  
*Robert Schmidt*, Custodian  
*Winston King*, Custodian  
*Dan Chaney*, Audio Visual Technician  
*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**

13459 W. Stardust Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375-2548

Office Phone: (623) 584-4602 FAX: (623) 584-9713

E-Mail: [dppc@desertpalmschurch.org](mailto:dppc@desertpalmschurch.org); Website: [desertpalmschurch.org](http://desertpalmschurch.org)

Facebook: **The Desert Palms Presbyterian Church**

*The Palms* is published for church members and friends.

## Just ASK Outreach Breakfast

**Thursday, September 24  
7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**

**Pebble Creek Tuscany Ballroom  
16262 Clubhouse Dr, Goodyear, AZ**

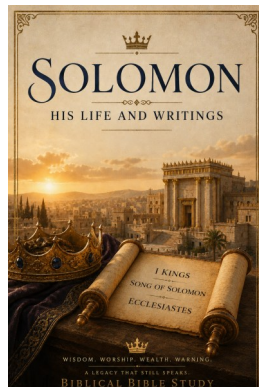


Come learn about how Just ASK Outreach supports First Responders of the West Valley and Sounds of Autism. There is no cost, but only 13 tickets are available. It is first come, first served so please sign up in Fellowship Hall after worship on Sundays.

## Biblical Bible Study

**Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.  
Starting September 24**

“Drift” and “Anchored” are two words that describe King Solomon’s life. Come learn what anchored Solomon and what caused him to drift from the Lord. Our Biblical Bible Study of the life and writings of Solomon will meet on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., beginning on September 24, and going through mid-April. Please contact Helen at 303-881-6329 or [helendevantery@msn.com](mailto:helendevantery@msn.com) to register.



## Celebration of Sight Gathering

This luncheon, on Tuesday, September 15, at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, is a gift from Pam Grumbles to thank God for healing her sight and for all the support she has received from the Desert Palms family. There will be a brief celebration time filled with stories and music followed by fellowship over lunch.

There is no cost for this event but please sign up so we can plan for food. The deadline for signing up is September 8. You can sign up in Fellowship Hall after worship, in the church office during the week, or online at the church website under Upcoming Events.



## Article Deadline

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



## Summer Movie Night

**Wednesday, September 30 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.**



**Starting October 11,**

**We will once again  
have two services  
each Sunday at  
8:30 a.m. and  
10:30 a.m.**



## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

623-584-4602

## Update from Scotland



Hi DPPC friends,

We arrived in Scotland at the end of June, and we have been busy finding a place to live, connecting with our colleagues, and sorting through all the details that come with an overseas move. All is well! We have settled in a town called South Queensferry, just outside northwest Edinburgh, and have a very comfortable rental home. We still don't have a car, but public transportation is easily accessible and we are within walking distance from the train station, grocery store, High Street, gym and several churches. This past weekend we had a memorable first visit to St. Andrew's, about an hour north of us.

In terms of our ministry, we are busy preparing for the beginning of the next 10-month training cohort that starts at the end of next month with a 4-day retreat. Please pray for these new leaders as they get ready for a season of growth, and for our team as we finalize our preparation for a program that will help them reach their potential and make a difference in communities across the region.

Your generous support is what makes our ministry with Launch possible. Craig serves on the management team as an administrative and pastoral leader, and Lynn oversees the program's Soul Care spiritual formation aspects.

Thank you for prayers that we continue a smooth transition process, receive our possessions currently being shipped via sea, purchase a vehicle, get to know our neighbors, and engage with Launch's newest group of next-generation church leaders from Scotland, the UK and the rest of Europe.

Blessings!  
Craig and Lynn Sumey

## Up for a Morning Walk? Visit Our Labyrinth



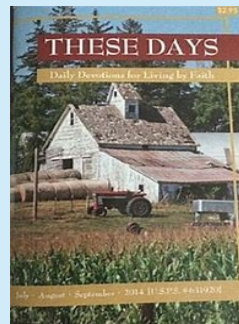
### Prayer Labyrinth

Have you visited our Labyrinth in the West Parking lot?

If you want to enjoy a nice walk and get some exercise, check out our Labyrinth!

Brochures showing how to use it may be found in the kiosks. You only have to enter and follow the path. Your walk can encompass a variety of attitudes. It may be joyous or somber. It might be thoughtful or prayerful. Use it as a walking meditation.

## Daily Devotionals

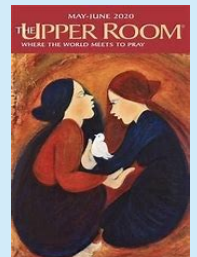


Desert Palms encourages everyone to spend time in the Word of God each day. One way to do this is by using a devotional.

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](mailto:dppc@desertpalmschurch.org), or call the church office at (623) 584-4602.



## Pastor Jim's Bible Study Returns



Starting on Monday, September 14, Pastor Jim's Monday Bible study will resume meeting.

There are three options available. One at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room at DPPC, one at 12:30 p.m. at Grandview Terrace, and a new one at 2:30 p.m. at The Colonnade. All are welcome!