



The Palms

Desert Palms
Presbyterian Church
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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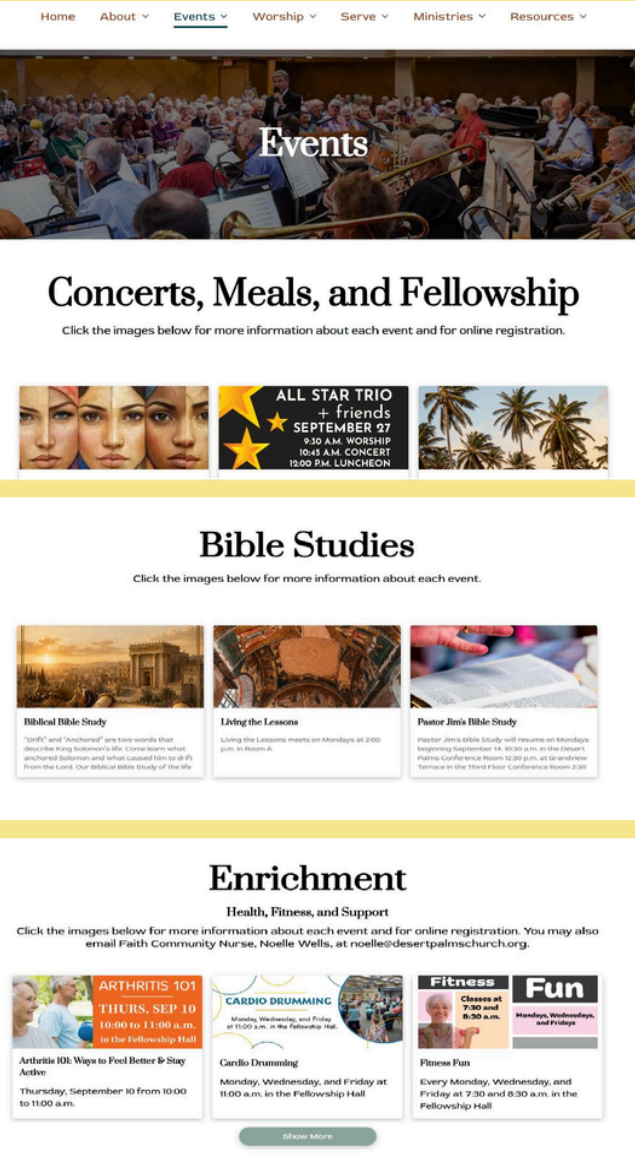
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Website Updates



Have you noticed the new Events tab on our DPPC website? This was added a few months ago and is the place to go for information about upcoming events at Desert Palms.

We have several categories of events, such as “Concerts, Meals and Fellowship,” “Bible Studies,” “Enrichment,” and you may click on the graphic for each event to learn more. You may also register and/or pay online!

The QR code below this article will take you directly to the Events page on the website. Please take a few minutes to explore our upcoming events.

Event information and signups
are now available online!

Visit the events tab at
desertpalmschurch.org or scan the
QR code below to view all of our
upcoming events.



From Pastor Jim



“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

Summer came to a close on the first day of Fall on Tuesday, September 22, at 5:04 p.m. Paul's words from 1 Thessalonians seem to come to life in the Fall season with messages around the theme of gratitude. The Fall harvest and the Thanksgiving holiday focus our attention on giving thanks to God as an expression of our gratitude. Scientific research reveals that Paul's call for Christians to express gratitude is exactly what we need. The experts have found that practicing gratitude helps reduce stress, lifts our mood and, over time, makes positive thinking a lasting habit. Practicing gratitude even helps us sleep better, can help lower blood pressure and build our immunity. As God's people we know that our generosity is a grateful response to all that He has done for us. Giving of our time, talents and treasure is one of many gratitude practices.

The many ways that our members express generosity is a reason for the spiritual, physical and emotional well-being of our church. As a church we have provided bikes for the Borderland YAVs; education for youth in Arizona, Kenya, Uganda and Pakistan; beds for children in Maricopa County and food for the hungry. This year our Habitat for Humanity gifts have assisted three seniors to be able to afford necessary repairs to their homes. The Desert Palms family is quite generous!

I am in awe of the many quiet, unsung ways that our church continues to cultivate lives of generosity. Thanks be to God Who empowers us! In this season of gratitude, as we pray without ceasing, may God's Spirit reveal in big and small ways how Desert Palms members and friends can continue to practice and inspire generosity.

From Pastor Linda

Jesus taught a way of life and invited people into a relationship with God that was vibrant, dynamic and fruitful. He said, *“I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit...My father is glorified by this that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”* (John 15:5,8)

Scripture is filled with phrases that point to fruitful living – the kingdom of God, eternal life, immeasurable riches, a peace that passes all understanding, abundant life. Jesus and his disciples developed core fundamental spiritual practices that sustained them in God and motivated them to relieve the burdens that restrain people from flourishing by protecting the vulnerable, embracing outcasts, healing the sick, welcoming children, caring for widows, confronting injustice, pardoning sin, preaching good news, releasing people from paralysis, and suffering and the fear of death. They presented the gift and demand of God's grace to everyone. Paul writes, “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5) Scripture teaches us about living a vibrant, fruitful, dynamic life with God through following Christ.



W. Timothy Gallwey says that when we plant a rose seed in the earth, we notice that it is small, but we do not criticize it as "rootless and stemless." We treat it as a seed, giving it the water and nourishment required of a seed. When it first shoots up out of the earth, we don't condemn it as immature and underdeveloped; nor do we criticize the buds for not being open when they appear. We stand in wonder at the process taking place and give the plant the care it needs at each stage of its development. The rose is a rose from the time it is a seed to the time it dies. Within it, at all times, it contains its whole potential. It seems to be constantly in the process of change; yet at each state, at each moment, it is perfectly all right as it is.”^[1] Spiritual growth is a lifelong process. But the seed is already within you. The inner world of spirit begins very slowly, but once it is awakened within us, we begin to change our priorities and how we use our gifts. Understanding the realm of spirit takes study and training, it is a daily walk. Spiritual energy gives us the confidence that we can overcome the countless distractions the world offers.

Living in the Spirit allows us to look at the future with hope. It enables us to see beyond this temporal world. We begin where our seed awakens and we learn how to nurture our emerging skills of spirit by recognizing and using all the challenges in the material world as assets for discovering our wholeness. The invitation is ever before us to make the Spirit of Christ visible in all we do.

[1] The Inner Game of Tennis, by W. Timothy Gallwey

From Faith Community Nurse Noelle



The Medicine Cabinet Between Your Ears

Most of us would not take a medication simply because someone handed it to us. We would want to know what it is, why we need it, and whether it is actually helping. Yet when it comes to our minds, we can be surprisingly careless about what we take in. We all have thoughts that show up automatically. Some are useful. Others deserve examination.

"I made a mistake." That may be true.

"I always mess things up." That is a conclusion.

"She didn't call me back." That's a fact.

"She must be upset with me." That's an assumption.

"My doctor wants another test." That's information.

"Something terrible must be wrong." That's fear filling in the blanks.

Scripture gives us some interesting examples of this. When the Israelites reached the Promised Land, the spies saw the same people and the same obstacles. Ten concluded, "We can't do this." Joshua and Caleb saw those same circumstances but viewed them in light of God's presence and promises. The circumstances were the same; the conclusions were not.

Martha also had a legitimate problem: there was plenty to do. Yet Jesus described her as "worried and upset about many things." (Luke 10:41) The work wasn't imaginary. But the mental weight she was carrying was affecting how she experienced the moment.

Our bodies can respond to that mental weight, too. Ongoing worry and stress can contribute to poor sleep, muscle tension, headaches, digestive problems, fatigue, and difficulty concentrating. The mind and body are not separate compartments. That is why Paul's instruction to **"take every thought captive"** (2 Corinthians 10:5) is worth considering. We don't have to believe every thought simply because it occurs to us.

Is this a fact or my interpretation?

Am I responding to what happened or what I fear might happen?

Have I decided what someone else is thinking without asking?

Philippians 4:8 gives us another filter: *"Whatever is true... noble... right... pure... lovely... admirable... think about such things."* Notice that Paul begins with **true**.

The goal isn't positive thinking. It is **truthful thinking**.

"This is hard" may be more honest than "Everything is hopeless."

"I don't know what will happen" is more truthful than predicting disaster.

"I can't fix this today" may be healthier than spending the night trying to solve something that isn't solvable at 2:00 a.m.

As we age, experience gives us wisdom, but it can also make us quick to predict what comes next. Sometimes that is wisdom. Sometimes it is simply an old thought pattern wearing a wise-looking disguise.

Taking care of ourselves includes more than what we put into our bodies. It also includes paying attention to what we repeatedly put into our minds or the thoughts we continually allow to stay.

Perhaps it's time to check the medicine cabinet between your ears.

Some thoughts are worth keeping. Some have expired. And some may never have been good medicine in the first place.

Article Deadline

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

Caregiver Support Group

**Monday, October 5 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

Donna Booth joined the Church Triumphant on September 1. Please hold her husband, Ken, and family in prayer.

Joan Braucht was welcomed home by God on September 1. Please hold her family in prayer.

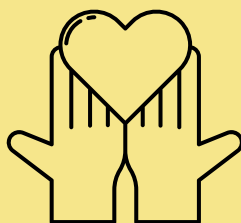
Jan Carlson joined the Church Triumphant on September 8. Please hold her husband, Merlyn, and family in prayer.

Monica Page was welcomed home by God on September 19. Please hold her family in prayer.



A Healing Spirit

Here at Desert Palms, a supportive grief 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



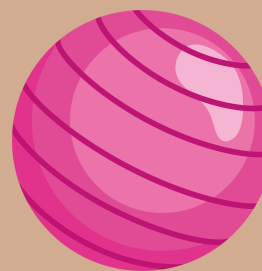
Participate in a fabulous exercise class that includes stretching, cardiovascular, strength training, and balance. Certified instructor: Coleen Burke

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 the Fellowship Hall**

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 the Fellowship Hall**



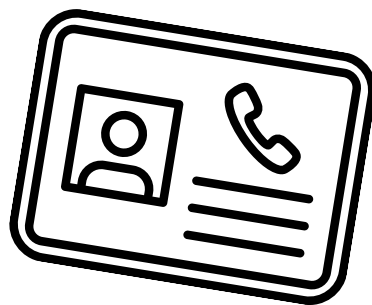
**Sun Health Presents:
Your End of Life Journey**

**Thursday, October 8 at 10:00 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall**

Join Marcia Hanizeski, EOLD, for a casual, compassionate discussion about planning for end-of-life care. We'll explore how planning ahead can bring peace of mind, comfort, and clarity for you and your loved ones. You'll learn common hospice facts and myths and receive helpful resources to begin your planning or navigate an existing situation. Sign up during fellowship hour after worship, in the Church Office, or online by visiting the events tab at desertpalmschurch.org.

Directory Changes

Please contact the church office.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Wednesday, October 21
at 12:30 p.m. in Room B**

Our Ministry has been sending Shawls to veterans and families of service members. We are proud to be a network of needle crafters for the fallen Veterans of Valor. Since 2006, Military Veterans and the families of the fallen Veterans have received Shawls.

The Shawls are presented to the families traveling to Dover Air Force Base for the dignified transfer of their service member. Family members have often told the volunteers who wait with them prior to the dignified transfer that the Prayer Shawl is the only thing offered to them from another person, rather than from the government.

These Prayer Shawls are tangible expressions to the family members of our care for them and the loved one they have lost.

May God Bless America,
Carole Jean Soine

Quilting Ministry



Knots ahoy! We've been a busy crew during the summer, working at home and coming together just once a month. Those of us remaining in SCW through the summer have been sewing our "kits" at home and square knot tying the 99 squares needed in each quilt which sandwiches the three layers together. A kit is prepared at the church by selecting the squares to be used and lining them up to be sewn together. **We managed to complete and send 30 more quilts to *Sleep in Heavenly Peace***, the organization that builds beds, provides pillows, sheet sets and, of course, our quilts, for the beds. They receive quilts from other sources as well.

We've learned that via their website, people contact them to request this donation for their children. Three hundred beds were sent to the Peoria area just recently, and there is a long list of those waiting for them. This need is the reason we work hard with our ministry activity, knowing we are helping to provide comfort and warmth for each child who lays under them.

How can this not warm your heart? **We meet on the first and third Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. – noon in Fellowship Hall.** We can use more help and would love to see some new faces to work with us. Machine sewing experience is not needed. For more information, please call Capi Francis.

COFFEE SERVERS

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.



ANGEL BEES

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect". Romans 12:2

Looking for Something New?

I have had people say to me that they wish they could be a part of the Angel Bees. Did you know there is so much more to what we do than just 'sew quilts'? We have Judy Bowles who keeps our quilts properly folded and in order in our cabinet. This allows us to better utilize the space we have. John Bowles, (YES, A MAN!) keeps our electronic inventory. This helps us to know what we have, and specifics about the quilts so we can see what is available to go where it's needed. Lee Weir, (YES ANOTHER MAN, now 90 years old!) comes early to see if the ladies need help carrying things from their cars. What could you possibly do to be a part of our group if you don't sew? Well, first of all, we'd be happy to teach you, if you are interested. We have extra sewing machines for this purpose. But, if sewing isn't your thing we need help with organizing our material (holy cow do we need help here!!!!), coordinating our supplies, ironing, folding, shopping and heck, even setup and clean up of our lunch!! We'd love to have you come and be a part of this marvelous group! Maybe this is the time to try something new!

See you in church!

Blessings,
Pamela Weir



ANGEL BEES UPCOMING SCHEDULE

October 10 – 8:30 a.m. Sewing day in Fellowship Hall
November 7 – 8:30 a.m. Sewing day in Fellowship Hall

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 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.

Volunteers
needed

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. Your presence makes a difference. For more information call Linda Boman.

Men of the Church

Tuesday, October 20 at 8:00 a.m.

The next Men's Breakfast is Tuesday, October 20, at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, with a wonderful catered breakfast. Our guest speaker will be Kellie von Borstel, the Executive Director at Montlure Camp. Montlure is a ministry for all to find and grow their faith in Jesus Christ. It is rooted in the beauty of creation, offering a safe and nurturing space for all to connect lives through transformation, restoration, and faith exploration.

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 \$10.



Church Office Hours

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



Worship
Schedule

Starting November 1,
We will once again have
two services each Sunday
at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

MONTLURE CAMP CENTENNIAL

In June of 1926, the vision for Montlure began and the roots were planted. The first Presbyterian summer youth conference was held in Oracle Junction (just north of Tucson). At this gathering, it was determined that a need existed to find a camp ground in order to permanently hold summer conferences for youth in Arizona, which later evolved into what now is known as Montlure Camp in Greer, AZ.

After hosting summer conferences at various locations for a few summer summers, the conference was held for the first time in Greer in 1929 at the Hilltop Butler Lodge. The beauty of the location left such a strong impression on attendees that they unanimously felt Greer was the perfect place to settle permanently. They believed they had been "lured" to the mountains because one felt closer to God at such an elevation and in such beauty. This led to the official naming of "Montlure."

The goal of the Presbyterian group was to make this stunning place an important addition to church programs. In 1930, the U.S. Forest Service was contacted and they secured a long term lease for 20 acres of land in the canyon south of Greer, establishing Montlure's permanent location. Over the years the lease area was reduced from 20 acres to the current 13 acres. The Forest Service built a road from Greer to the camp, now known as East Fork Road. The trees cleared for road construction were used to build the first Main Lodge. In the fall of 1930, before first snowfall, volunteers constructed the Lodge walls, rafters, and framework for the roof by standing logs on end. The builders were living in tents and left Montlure just before winter set in.

Throughout the winter, people from Tucson and Phoenix combined their efforts to gather supplies and make plans for the completion of the Lodge in preparation for the official opening of the camp program on the site Montlure sits on today. The volunteer builders returned in March, 1931. Since Highway 60 had not yet been completed, the party and its load of supplies traveled to McNary over the one-way road through White River to reach Montlure. These determined founders worked tirelessly to finish the Lodge, and on June 21, 1931 the first summer conference was held in the new facility in Greer.

Montlure has become a special place with special meaning for many campers and Presbyterians for 100 years. Children and adults have supported and participated in the growth and development of our camp. The greatest growth has probably occurred within each of us and our Christian lives as we have made new friends, worked and played together, and worshiped God together, surrounded by the beauty of creation. The heritage of this beautiful camp ministry with its permanent site located high in the White Mountains of Greer, Arizona, comes from the vision, toil, and sacrifice of many dedicated people.

Annual Congregational Meeting, Part 1

**Wednesday, October 28, at 4:00 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.)



Upcoming Blood Drive

Tuesday, November 3 from 7:30 a.m. – Noon

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.

TURKEY DAY

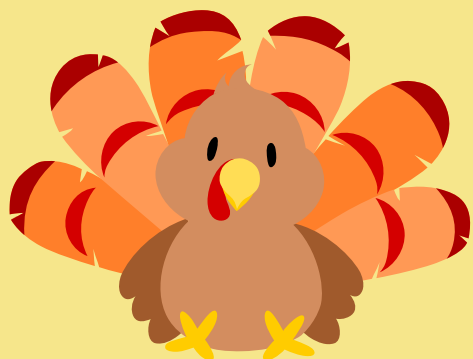
**Saturday, November 21
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

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



How to Successfully Age at Home

Thursday, October 22, at 10:00 a.m.

Sun Health At Home will be here to answer any questions you may have so you can age confidently and independently in your home. They can act as your partner and personal advocate, making sure you are prepared, aware of your options, and always have the care and services that are right for you as your health needs change. Sign up on Sundays after worship in Fellowship Hall, in the church office during the week, or on our website under the Events tab.

Meet the Staff

Winston King, Custodian



Winston, our newest member of the DPPC staff, grew up in Lenoir City, TN near Knoxville. While growing up, he was active in the Boy Scouts program, enjoyed water skiing and snow skiing. He also played alto sax in a High School Marching Band that performed in a street show in Mexico City for the President of Mexico.

Winston finished school at Mt. Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown, MA. He earned an associate degree at the Culinary Institute of America and worked fifteen years as a Chef in many places.

Since moving to Arizona, he managed Fairway Recreation Center for three years and worked for the Recreation Centers of Sun City for eleven years. His hobbies include cross stitching and spending time at the Recreation Center in Sun City.

When asked what he enjoys about his job here, he responded with “The people I work with and all the church members”.

Book of the Month

**Friday, October 16,
from 10:30–11:30 a.m.
in the Music Room**

The featured book for October will be:
Mad Mabel by Sally Hepworth
(FICTION HepMad)

An 81-year-old woman hides her dark past as Australia’s youngest convicted mass murderer.

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.

Future Planning Committee: September Update

We promised to keep you informed and we are sticking with it!

By now you have either heard about or already received the survey – it came out in the same way you get the monthly newsletter. Electronically is probably the easiest way to complete it. It will take you approximately 15 minutes to complete it, but consider that time an investment in the future of this wonderful church! Pray through the survey and give it your serious attention. Spend some time really thinking about things that brought you here, or what keeps you here, or things you wish could be changed. Whatever your thoughts, this is the time to share them! By the way, if you're not into technology, there are paper copies of the survey provided in the narthex and in the church office. Also, if you received your survey via email, but there are two of you, you can each fill it out separately. If you have a friend or a neighbor who attends, but maybe not a member, forward the email on. The more input we get, the better.

We also want to let you know that Sherilyn Emberton, our consultant, will be visiting us the weekend of October 10 through the 13. She will attend the Board of Deacons meeting and some other groups on Saturday, and she'll come to our church service on October 11. There will be time in Fellowship to talk with her.

We're excited about getting your input so complete your survey! We will be collecting them through October 4.

Stay tuned for more details to follow...

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.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

PW MEETING AND CIRCLE UPDATES

Bible Study Briefing

Lesson 2
Monday, October 5,
at 8:30 a.m. in Room B

Circle Leaders Coordinating Team Meeting

Monday, October 5,
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 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 2nd Monday of the month,
October 12, at 9:00 a.m., in Room B.
Contact person: Judith Hoyer

Lydia

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month,
October 14, at 10:00 a.m., in Room B.
Contact person: Sue Christopher

Martha

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month,
October 14, at noon, in the Conference Room.
Bring your own lunch.
Contact person: Marilyn Keizer

Phoebe

Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month,
October 8, at noon in Room A.
Contact person: Linda S. Miller

Rebecca

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month,
October 14, at 9:00 a.m.
in the Conference Room.
Contact person: Carole Jean Soine

You are invited to attend the Presbyterian Women's Christmas Communion Service Monday, December 7, 2026

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

Come for a very special afternoon of fellowship and singing. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. We will dedicate the **Thank Offering** and we will celebrate Holy Communion. This year's theme will be love.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 4, 2026

"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 4, 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.)

PAINTING CLASS

Thursday, October 22
1:00 p.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 one and a half hours; space is limited. Sign up in the church office or contact Nurse Noelle.



LOST AND FOUND

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

Harvest Halloween Concert

**Friday, October 30
2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Enjoy a fun-filled and energetic show that will surely send chills up and down your spine as Dan Reed, Nicole Pesce, Greg Varlotta, and Janet Daniel "trick or treat" you with familiar Halloween favorites and seasonal jazz standards. Ken Goodenberger will be a special musical guest. A free-will offering will be taken.



Prayer Labyrinth

Have you visited our Labyrinth in the West Parking lot? Now that the weather is cooling down, 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.

Let your steps guide you into a space of reflection and connection, not only with yourself but with God. The Labyrinth is a beautiful tool for centering and grounding your spirit, offering a moment of peace amidst the busyness of life. Whether you're seeking clarity, solace, or simply a moment to breathe deeply, the Labyrinth invites you to embark on a journey inward. Take your time as you walk, embracing the insights and tranquility that the journey may bring, while opening your heart to the Lord's divine presence.



Prayer Labyrinth



Stephen Ministry

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

God gives each one of us special and unique gifts. Some people in our congregation are wonderful musicians, some are artists, some are excellent cooks, and some are just wonderful with whom to share in fellowship.

God has showered us with blessings in the form of gifts and talents. Do you remember the story in Matthew 25 about the servant who hid his master's talents? Those talents brought no benefit to the owner. Let us not hide our gifts; but let us share them in service to one another.

How can I start to serve others and use my gifts to please God, the giver of all gifts? Ask one of your Stephen Ministry Leaders, Kathe Cochrane, Carole Jean Soine, or Pastor Linda for more information on how to become involved as a Stephen Minister. The gift of caring just might be your special gift to share!

Or perhaps you feel that your tank is running on fumes right now. Maybe it would be helpful for you to share your burdens with a confidential Christian friend. Get in touch with one of the people listed above for more information about how a Stephen Minister could help you through your rough spot so that you can share your gifts again. Stephen Ministers are trained and pray daily for their care receivers. Stephen Ministry is a ministry of presence and companionship which equips church members to provide care to those who are going through a challenging time. It is quiet, confidential and compassionate.

Presbytery Meeting

Saturday, November 14

Mark your calendars for November 14! Desert Palms will be hosting the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Grand Canyon. Watch for more details.

2027 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our DPPC 2027 Stewardship Campaign commences on October 18. In this stewardship season, we have selected from James 1:22 our theme to be "Doers of the Word." God calls us into a covenant relationship which is a sacred, binding partnership. We receive God's Word with humility and allow it to transform our lives. God's Spirit guides us toward a call to action to apply what we learn from scripture through obedience. Faith is expressed through love and our lives become filled with purpose and action focused upon kindness, forgiveness, and integrity. There is no room to be passive. Faith requires action. We are saved by Grace. We respond because of our Faith.

Your faith drives our financial health. The Holy Spirit guides each of us in the amount we give. Financial support is an expression of obedience. While we have a beautiful, well maintained and cared for campus, the church is not the building itself. It is each one of us who participate in worship, live streaming, fellowship groups, small groups, bible studies, mission support, women's groups, men's groups, and all the many activities and enrichment opportunities available to each of us. God is calling each of us to serve, offer prayers, love one another as a family of God and provide financial support to the extent possible.

This stewardship season, we are providing additional methods to complete both an Estimate of Future Giving card as well as for making your contributions. Our desertpalmschurch.org website provides information about our Stewardship Campaign as well as methods of giving. Faith is demonstrated by being "Doers of the Word."



Biblical Bible Study

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

"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 meets on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.. To register, please contact Helen at helendevantery@msn.com or 303-881-6329.



Pastor Jim's Bible Study

Join Pastor Jim for a study on the book of Hebrews on Mondays, at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room at Desert Palms, at Grandview Terrace at 12:30 p.m. in the third-floor conference room, or at 2:30 p.m. at The Colonnade at the Assisted Living building in the Activities Room. All are invited.

Financial Affairs

2026 Eight Months	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Total Income	\$770,506	\$860,026
Total Expenses	\$822,755	\$853,414
Net Income (loss)	(\$52,249)	\$61,612

August continued with income quite a bit below plan by over \$20,000 and behind year-to-date plan by \$89,500. Two months in a row is not a trend, but we are surprised to be this far behind on contributions. August expenses were well managed as they were below plan by \$9,400 and under year-to-date plan by \$30,500. The result of these variances is that our year-to-date Net Income is below plan by \$58,800.

The value of our Endowments invested at Vanguard continues to experience fluctuations. The month of August valuation was up 2.7% for the month. Our year-to-date results are a 13.1% increase while our 5-year growth remains strong at a 12.7% 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.

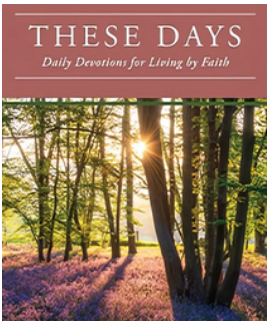
Charlie Green,
Chair, Financial Affairs Committee



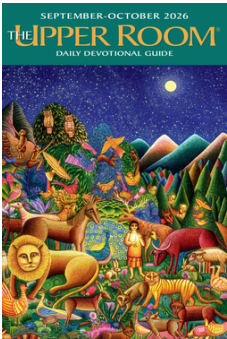
Daily Devotionals

Desert Palms encourages everyone to spend time in the Word of God each day. One way to do this is by using a devotional. Each devotional offers insightful reflections, prayers, and scripture readings to guide you through each day, providing comfort and inspiration.

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.



May these devotionals enrich your spiritual life and bring you closer to God's love and wisdom.



Friendship Groups

The purpose of the Friendship Groups is to promote a spiritual, social and caring fellowship among members of the church. Anyone who wishes to participate may belong to a friendship group. The Board of Deacons governs the friendship group program and selects the chairperson. Each group is responsible for its own leaders and co-leaders.

Christian fellowship is a meaningful way to get to know other members through social gatherings. The size of group, type of events and frequency of gatherings is determined by each group. Being a Christian friend to one another in times of joy or need is a special way of providing support and care.

The groups do various things to socialize, including gatherings for dinner at someone's home or at church, meeting at restaurants, organizing potlucks, attending plays, concerts and sporting events. Friendship groups are encouraged to help with sponsoring a special church event such as a concert and dinner in cooperation with the Outreach committee, or providing personnel for Sunday morning coffee in the Fellowship Hall. Groups are also encouraged to serve as ushers or as a group effort.

If you are interested in joining a Friendship Group or would like to learn more, you are invited to attend a **luncheon on Tuesday, October 13, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** Please sign-up in Fellowship Hall after worship, in the church office during the week, or on our website under Upcoming Events. **The deadline to sign up is October 6.**



- 1 Lee Mattke
- 3 Karen Byers
Betty Jane Jones
- 4 George Lund
Jim Coopmans
- 5 Pam Thompson
- 6 Sue Watson
- 7 Nina Lundin
Cordaine Mitchell
Jesse Hock
Linda Leafstedt
Patti Ludviksen
- 8 Jan Sebzda
Beth George
- 9 Linda Longley

- 10 Sandy Warmuth
- 11 Jan Winslow
JoAnn Jallo
- 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 Dennis Dreikosen
Eileen Bump
- 20 Nancy Rodich
Barbara McKendall
Missy Whitehead
- 21 Irene Fiet

- 22 Lenora Roberts
- 23 Bill Benfield
Rick Kress
- 24 Betty Estes
Pat Giles
Marcia Vorlicky
- 26 Marilyn Chaulk
Jane Heck
- 27 Norm Fiet
Linda Boman
Lou Rouyer
- 28 Betty Heig
Judy Poff
Shirley Koskowski
Kathy Loudon
- 29 Dan Brown
Laura Temple
- 31 Judy Milligan
Pat Martin

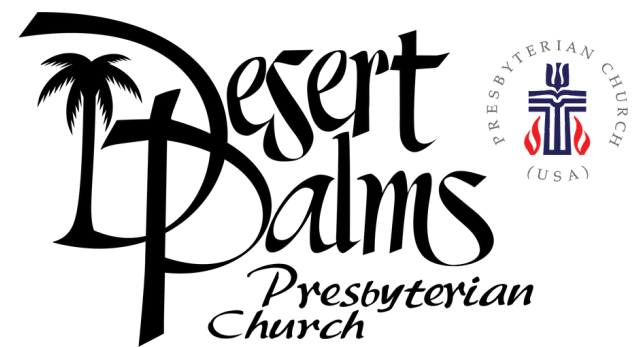
- 7 Al and Linda Brown
- 14 Gail and John Hafer
- 18 Wayne and Laura Nemetz
- 19 Marla and Tom McLean
Sandy and Denny Martinson
- 21 Mark and Donna Steidl
- 22 David and Jayne Schlemmer
Mike and Jan Woodward
Lew and Sandi Evans
- 30 John and Mary Lawson
- 31 Craig and Patti Cross



Desert Palms Presbyterian Church

13459 W. Stardust Blvd.

Sun City West, AZ 85375-2548



Lord, we thank you for:



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

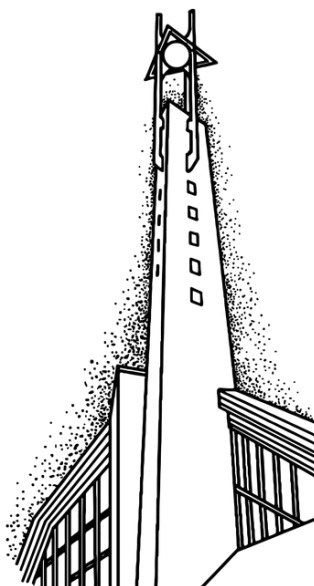
Susan McGrath, Custodian

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 last Sunday in October. Starting November 1, worship services will be held 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 to Friday

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church

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Facebook: The Desert Palms Presbyterian Church

The Palms is published for church members and friends.