



**Volume 32- Number 8 Published Monthly
Desert Palm United Church of Christ
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CHURCH LEADERS:

Moderator: Bill Albert
Clerk: Mark Williams
Financial Secretary: Marlene Schanz
Treasurer: Randy Bulriss
Christian Education: Marie Parsey
Church Development: Pat Lantrip
Community World: Beverly Crawford
Financial Affairs: Kent Utter
Fellowship: Larry Seubert
Facilities Management: Phillip Scott
Spiritual Life and Worship: Linda Stewart
Youth Member-at-Large: Michelle Bulriss

STAFF:

Pastor: John Herman
Associate Pastor: Michael-Ann Veziroglu
Pastor Emeritus: Don Arey
Administrative Assistant: Shelley Daley
Nursery: Kristin Wetzel

MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

Minister of Music: Jon Sywassink

The Shape of Thing to Come

Dear friends,

Progress toward the installation of our new Audio Video equipment has certainly been noticed, with a Control Booth in the back of the sanctuary, extension chords holding things together temporarily until the permanent wiring is complete, video projectors hanging from the ceiling, a microphone suspended above the choir area, highly visible new speakers in various places, and everybody curious about what the future will look like. Where can this all lead?



Congregations who have taken these steps have discovered a number of new truths- It takes a great deal more time to put together a meaningful worship service in a multi-media setting, especially one that flows well and centers on the scriptural message with which they are dealing. Sometimes the new imagery can seem simplistic and sometimes it can lift a congregation to new levels of understanding. (Each of us responds to different ways of learning and interacting- auditory, visual, musical, physical action and so forth.

Some churches have relied on projection screens for all their music, for instance, which robs those who read music from the opportunity of singing in harmony. Some congregations decide to pursue the "contemporary" feel of "Praise music," and discover that much of it is overly repetitive and not very elegant theologically.

But other churches discover the power of projecting lyrics- say- of the choral anthem over scenes of appropriate and visually moving artwork that relates to the theme being expressed by the singer.

Our sister congregation in Scottsdale, the Scottsdale Congregational United Church of Christ (4425 N Granite Reef Road, Scottsdale 85251) holds a Sunday service at 11:00 called The Studio, described as Experiential Worship, neither contemporary nor traditional, but incorporating aspects of each. Since Desert Palm will soon have the technology to explore new options to enhance our worship, it seems only logical for me to suggest something totally illogical:

Would you and your family like to visit the Scottsdale congregation's Studio Service some Sunday during August? Then you can see what touches you and what doesn't, what turns you on and what turns you off, what attracts you and what doesn't click for you. And then you could send me an email with your responses or reactions. I'll keep them confidential, but I'd like to share them with the worship committee as we decide what might become significant for Desert Palm. Maybe you'll request a letter of transfer to Scottsdale, maybe you'll wonder if you would like to be part of the team that plans elements of worship as we enter this "brave new world."

Who knows what good things God may have in store for us together! /John Herman

JULY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Discussion about a **Desert Palm Members' Handbook** that would include descriptions of all our activities, ministries, FAQ's, etc. Initially it would be available to all members and would be given automatically to New Members when they join.

Sierra Signs, the successful bidder for our **new sign**, reviewed his designs- along with our own graphic design consultant, Kari Young. The fonts and layout were adjusted somewhat and final versions were emailed to the council within 48 hours for approval. The sign will be lighted internally, and will feature the red, black and white colors, and the lettering fonts of the UCC's "brand" and the UCC cross. It will also include provisions for temporary or seasonal messages.

We discussed the advisability of holding a morning-long **Council Orientation Session** in early August with both new and more seasoned Council members. (Saturday, August 6, 8:30-12:00 has now been set.)

Capital Improvement Task Force Some members of the congregation have requested we update the church's restrooms and pursue a few other improvement projects during fiscal year 2012-2013. The Council is asking for three to four people to volunteer for a Capital Improvement Task Force. Their task would be to determine what specific changes and replacements should be made, provide estimated costs and fund raising suggestions. If you would like to serve on this task force, please contact Phill Scott.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF 2011 PLEDGED RECEIPTS AS OF 6/30/11

\$196,081 – Adjusted Total 2011 pledges by 93 accounts

(During June one new pledge was filed and 2 accounts reduced.)

\$96,370 – Actual 2011 pledged receipts as of 6/30/11.

(\$95,770 paid during 2011 and \$600 paid in 2010 for 2011)

\$98,041 -- Pledged amount due as of 6/30/11 (6 months/50% of year)

24% of accounts have paid less than the total pledged to date. Resulting in a '**shortage**' of **\$6,580**. (Last year 26% had paid less as of June 30th.)

57% are right on target. (Last year 52% were current.)

19% of accounts have paid more than amount due, resulting in advance payments of \$6,229, which will be applied to future months. (Last year 22% had paid in advance.)

Thank you to all for your continued support. Questions or changes in pledged amounts should be directed to Marlene Schanz, Financial Secretary 480-634-7716 or mmschanz118@cox.net

OUR JULY "THANK YOUS" GO TO:

Don Arey, Marion Durham, John Herman, Bill Kaszeta, Ray Littleford and Phill Scott who arrived at church between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 9th to hose down and sweep down the atrium and sidewalks after our July 5th haboob (dust storm).

Bill Albert and Al Dion for hauling and unloading a storage cabinet from the Alberts' daughter's home that is now available to help with storage at the church.

Southwest Conference Delegates Lois and Richard Kenyon, Jo and Jim Vredenburg, John Herman and Jaci Meade-Scott, who represented Desert Palm at the recent Ecclesiastical Councils for ministerial candidates in early July.

Jim Vredenburg for volunteering to lead our Children's Time in worship during Michael-Ann's vacation.

Beverly Pittman for continuing to provide and refurbish toys for Arizona Adoption and Foster Care.

Marc Klein, who has completed the building shell of the new AV control room and has also gone "above and beyond" what we originally asked him to do.

Bill Kaszeta for early morning tree trimming, for repairing a blown out portion of our irrigation system, and for rising to the occasion when it was obvious that folks other than he had assumed he was doing not only the electrical engineering for the AV system, but was actually doing that part of the installation himself. Apologies and many thanks, Bill.

Gary Heath, for restoring our sanctuary seating each Saturday following construction disruptions on the AV system.

Dear Desert Palm,

I can't thank you all enough for the amazing send-off for Marty and me. No church in the world could be more special, more talented and more loving than our Desert Palm church family. Special thanks to Mark Williams and the Chancel Choir for the hilarious musical performance -- what a kick! We will miss you all!

With much love,

Lori Shepard

DESERT PALM'S MUSIC MINISTRY

SABBATICAL FOR A VITAL PART OF OUR MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

Kathy Skinner, Desert Palm's longest-serving accompanist, will be taking a much-deserved sabbatical from her position for the 2011-2012 choir season. Since 2001, Kathy has provided dedicated and wonderful service as piano accompanist for both the Chancel and Children's Choirs, accompanied hymns, played solo piano and piano/organ duet pieces, and served as organist when needed. In addition, Kathy willingly played for countless additional services, memorials, weddings, and recitals. For the past ten years we have been blessed with and are very thankful for her music ministry at Desert Palm. We pray that she will return to us refreshed, renewed, and re-inspired to continue her ministry to God and to us, too. / Jon Sywassink

AUGUST'S INTERGENERATIONAL CHOIR

Children, youth and adults are invited to sing anthems the first two Sundays in August (August 7th and 14th). We will rehearse those **Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m.** The anthems will be appropriate for a broad range of musical abilities. Come whichever Sunday you can and lend your voice.

CHOIRS AND HANDBELL START-UP TIMES

The start of school brings the return of our music groups at Desert Palm. Please consider sharing your talents through the music ministry of our church.

For Adults and Youth:

Bells of Peace (Handbells) meets on **Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.**, beginning August 17th. High school age and up are invited to ring. New ringers are needed. This group plays once a month for worship services and several times during the year in the community.



Chancel Choir meets **Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.**, beginning August 17th. High school age and up are invited to sing. This choir sings for the weekly worship services through the month of May and performs a large work for the Advent/Christmas music program in December.

For Children:

Children's Choir for kindergarten through 8th grades meet after worship on Sunday mornings from 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., starting August 21st. Plans include incorporating all of the children for the Advent/Christmas music program in December. In addition to singing once a month for worship services, the Children's Choir will sing at the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.



For more information about our music groups, please contact Jon Sywassink, Minister of music, at 480.763.4284 (home), or 480.831.0065 (church office.)

The kitchen is in desperate need of tea towels. Our supply has disappeared and not reappeared. If you find a good sale or have gently used ones -we need to re-stock the kitchen (any kind will do) as we get under way for the new church year. Thank you in advance for your generosity for this needy item with all the use the kitchen gets these days.

BUY GROCERIES & CONTRIBUTE TO DPUCC - all in one easy step!

Purchase a \$50 grocery card at church, use it at the store & automatically you will have made a donation to DPUCC. **It's a "no brainer"**. All you have to do is write a check to DPUCC, note "grocery" in the memo line, & Jim/Marion Durham or the church administrator will give you either a Fry's or Basha's gift card which acts like a debit card.

Bashas: There are 2 ways to help the church while shopping at Bashas, Food City, or AJ's Markets: use a gift/debit card or just use your store-issued "thank you" discount card. You link the Bashas Thank You card to the church (Group ID# 24248) & Bashas will contribute a percent of your purchases to the church. You can reload the gift/debit card at the store ... adding whatever cash amount you want.... which then creates a donation to DPUCC for whatever amounts you continue to add to the card. We receive 6% from Bashas.

Frys: The Frys gift/debit card can also be reloaded at the stores. DPUCC receives from 4-6% rebates.

Safeway: Your Safeway shopper card has a number assigned to it; that number can be registered on line at www.escrip.com. Click on Safeway, and register under Desert Palm UCC or group #9604720. We receive up to 1% on the value of your shopping. The link of your Safeway card & the escrip program has to be renewed every year

Albertsons: DPUCC has a key tag grocery card to link you with the Albertson rebate program. The cards are free, and the church receives 1% on rebate.

Sunflower: I understand there are gift cards available for Sunflower, but we've not yet learned any more details. Is anyone at church interested in a card from this store chain? If so, call Marion (480-967-6503) and she will find out more information.

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/ 1/1981	Cheri & Steve Megli	30 yrs.
8/ 4/1973	Rene & Dave Wright	38 yrs.
8/ 4/1984	Ethel & Kent Utter	27 yrs.
8/10/1997	Denise & Shad Jurgens	14 yrs.
8/16/1953	Leland & Eunice Fairbanks	58 yrs.
8/21/1965	Sandy & Bill Kaszeta	46 yrs.
8/26/1954	Lois & Dick Kenyon	57 yrs.
8/28/1964	Marlene & Tom Davis	47 yrs.



ADULT BIRTHDAYS

8/02	Bill Perkins	8/18	Neal Wright
8/03	Brandon Mart	8/19	Dick Unger
8/04	Ricky Davis	8/20	Jessica Beaver
8/07	Tom Inward	8/21	Steve Krumpak
8/08	Lois Arey	8/22	Heidi Klein
8/09	Brooke Tuzzolino		Elizabeth Matie
8/10	Elaine Bohlmeyer	8/24	Crissy Megli
	Larry Seubert		Nash Rajski
8/11	Dick Nearing	8/25	Jon Sywassink
	Bill Young	8/27	Jason Crawley
8/13	Kathryn Andrews	8/30	Mary Anne Brown

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

8/02/95	Duncan Maloney	16 yrs
8/17/97	Alex Underwood	14 yrs
8/18/03	Samantha Frank	8 yrs



WORSHIP LECTIONARY FOR AUGUST

Sunday, August 7th, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Genesis 37:1-4,12-28, Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday, August 14th, Ninth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Genesis 45:1-15, Psalm 133, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

Sunday, August 21st, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Exodus 1:8-2:10, Psalm 124, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

Sunday, August 28th, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Exodus 3:1-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

AUGUST 2011

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

9:00 a.m. Worship/Church School
 10:15 a.m. Refreshments in atrium
 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Lighthouse Presbyterian Church (LPC)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 pm Al-Anon	2 9:30 am Banner Group 4:45 pm Worship Committee Mtg	3	4	5	6 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 8:30-12.00 Council Workshop 3:00 pm I-HELP (Thornton)
7 8:30 am Intergenerational August Choir	8 7:00 pm Al-Anon	9 9:30 am Banner Group	10	11	12	13 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 1:30 pm Knit Wits
14 8:30 am Intergenerational August Choir	15 7:00 pm Al-Anon 7:00 pm Council Mtg- Library	16 9:30 am Banner Group	17 6:30 pm Bells of Peace 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	18	19	20 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 3:00 pm I-HELP (Schanz)
21 10:15 am Children's Choir	22 7:00 pm Al-Anon	23 9:30 am Banner Group	24 6:30 pm Bells of Peace 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	25	26	27 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC
28 10:15 am Children's Choir 4:00 pm PAZ (Heath Team)	29 7:00 pm Al-Anon	30 9:30 am Banner Group	31 6:30 pm Bells of Peace 7:30 pm Chancel Choir			