

# THE BREEZE

July 2011



Volume 32- Number 7 Published Monthly  
Desert Palm United Church of Christ  
Pastor: John F. Herman

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#### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

**10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.;** T, W, Th, F

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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  
Chancel Choir Accompanist: Kathy Skinner

*Dear Friends,*

Many of you know that I spent a week of vacation visiting old friends in the southern Idaho ranching community where I served as a seminary Intern 25 years ago. I could have also attended my undergraduate school's 45<sup>th</sup> reunion this year, and my High School 50<sup>th</sup> reunion is next year. I won't be attending either of those. There are some things I just don't want to see- like what my old graduating class members actually look like. I fear they'll all look old- white haired or bald or something equally depressing. And not at all as young as I have remained inside.

But the churches of my life have an attraction for me that's far different from academic settings, and they are worth going back to visit, because, despite obvious changes in people, churches maintain a kind of holy continuity that actually goes all the way back to Jesus and the original twelve apostles. Somehow the chain of our baptism can trace itself back that far. If only we knew the names of those who baptized the people who baptized us. It's an ecclesiastical genealogy that would be fun to discover, even though it might be as difficult to unravel as our genetic pedigree.

But the "original source" of our baptism heritage is not as significant as the source of our spiritual heritage, our rootedness. For our faith has been in formation from our very beginnings, in our personal version of our "family of origin" into all the subsequent faith communities of our lives- and in some of the secular communities that have had a significant impact on us as well.

I rediscovered something of that dynamic when I arrived back in Idaho a few weeks ago. The church claimed about the identical number of members as it did when I served there, but an entire generation- the former leaders of the church- had passed on into history. Those who were now left to make decisions about the church's ministry were mostly my age. Our generation had stepped into the roles of "wise elders" and their children were now the young and middle-aged adults who were raising their own children and tackling some of the more accessible ministries of the church as well as the ranches, farms and businesses in the area. Ancient wisdom suggests that it is the old people who see visions, and the young who dream dreams. In the church, though, it can also be the other way around. Sometimes the old people get to dream dreams of the future and share them with the young; and sometimes the young can catch visions of new possibilities and, if they are lucky enough to have the respect of the old, can join with them in making them happen.

Desert Palm is a long way from having had one of those "quarter century" birthdays—in 2029, when we are fifty years old. It might be interesting to reflect for a quick moment on what our congregation might be like then. Begin by asking how old you will be by 2029. How active do you expect to be at that age? How old will your children be? How many members of your present circle of friends here do you imagine will be around? If you are somewhere else, do you think you'll have the motivation to make your way back here for the golden anniversary of Desert Palm. Why might that be important to you? And if you do return, will you discover your "fingerprints" anywhere- maybe on some people?

*John*

## SUMMARY OF JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>, CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

In addition to electing new members to our Church Council, the Congregation also approved going ahead with plans to upgrade portions of our **Audio system** and to add **Video projection** capability to our sanctuary.

This project will improve and augment our worship experience and will also provide the means to enhance our ability to make our service more welcoming to those with hearing impairments. Estimate: \$25K

We also authorized council to proceed with a project to upgrade **outside signage** for the church. Estimate: \$10K

## SUMMARY OF JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Recently elected Council Members **Pat Lantrip, Marie Parsey and Michelle Bulriss** were welcomed to the meeting.

We received the **monthly reports** for our various Ministry Teams.

An update of final negotiations with Pat Hoffman, our successful bidder on the **Audio/ Video** installation were reviewed and an **initial payment** of \$15K was approved to orders for equipment.

**Kari Young** reviewed concept designs for the proposed **new sign** along Guadalupe, and the contractor will begin finalizing the actual design in the next few weeks.

New bids for the **Maintenance Contract** for our Heating and Air Conditioning system will be solicited.

The 2011-12 Council will be commissioned during worship on June 26. **Council Meetings** will move to **Monday nights at 7:00** pm in the Library this year.

**A BIG THANKS to the 2010-2011 Council. We had a great year and accomplished quite a bit. I thank each and every one of you for your cooperation!**  
**Dick Nearing**

## FINANCIAL REPORT OF 2011 PLEDGED RECEIPTS AS OF 5/31/11

\$198,031 – Total 2011 pledges by 92 accounts

\$82,736 – Actual 2011 pledged receipts as of 5/31/11.

(\$82,136 paid during 2011 and \$600 paid in 2010 for 2011)

\$82,513 -- Pledged amount due as of 5/31/11 (5 months/42% of year)

23% of accounts have paid less than the total pledged to date. Resulting in a '**shortage**' of **\$5,173**. (Last year 25% had paid less as of May 31<sup>st</sup>.)

61% are right on target. (Last year 52% were current.)

16% of accounts have paid more than amount due, resulting in advance payments of \$5,265, which will be applied to future months. (Last year 23% 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](mailto:mmschanz118@cox.net)

**NOTE---**The individual statements of contributions for the first half of 2011 (Jan. thru June), for pledged accounts, will be available in July. Please see Marlene Schanz Sunday mornings (July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, or 31<sup>st</sup>) or stop in office during regular office hours and see Shelley. If you are not a pledged

account but would like a statement of your contributions as of 6/30/11, please contact either Marlene or Shelley. Thank you. Marlene

### STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering totaled \$825.00 as of 6/21/11. Thank you to Jaci Meade Scott for her creative Mission Moment and to Shelley Daley and Cyndi Carver for their on-going support in seeing that the Inserts and Special Envelopes are put into the appropriate Sunday bulletins. In addition, with gratitude and thank you to the Desert Palm congregation for the generous contribution to STC, one of our 5 for 5! Jo Vredenburg



### FROM THE DESERT PALM PRAYER GROUP

There are presently over 200 people on our prayer list. We are a group of “pray-ers” and we would welcome some additional members. We do not meet as a group. The prayer list is divided and each member prays for 18 to 20 people on their list. It just means adding these names to your daily prayers-that’s all we ask. It is oh so rewarding to know you are easing the minds of those who need prayers. If you would like to join us, please call Beverly Byington at 480.839.1352, or talk to her at church.

### TEACHER APPRECIATION

We want to thank all of our school year Sunday school teachers! They have offered their time and gifts to our children and youth throughout this school year. We so appreciate their talent, creativity and love. Without them our children would miss an expression of God’s love in teaching, learning, growing and sharing.

<u>Nursery:</u>	<i>Kristin Wetzel</i>
<u>3 yr. olds- Kindergarten:</u>	<i>Marie Parsey and Kathryn Andrews w/Jordan Beaver</i>
<u>1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade:</u>	<i>Denise Jurgens, Stephanie Maloney and Dale Frank</i>
<u>4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade:</u>	<i>Jaci Meade Scott, Sally Jesse and Ethel Utter</i>
<u>Senior High:</u>	<i>Judy O’Neill and Ciel Villawatkins</i>

*Thank you for all you have done to share God’s love with our children  
and youth!!*

## JULY BREEZE - THANK YOU LIST

To our **Vacation Bible School Staff**. Thank you so much to all who made our **Shake It Up VBS** such a wonderful event! It took many to provide a meaningful, fun and spiritual experience for our children. Thank you to those who donated supplies, participated and/or attended. We could not have done it without you! Added to recent Sundays of Food offerings, were able to add 232 pounds of food which we helped load into the United Food Bank truck. Thanks to our “chefs” for the week: **Lorraine Diehl, Dale Frank, Holly Hansen, Matthew Heath, John Herman, Barb Hofflander, Denise Jurgens, Stori Jurgens, Lori Nordstrom, Larry Seubert, Jon Sywassink, Jim Vredenburg,, Marlene Schanz, Katarina Wetzel, Kristin Wetzel, Michelle Hertel and Scraps D. Raccoon.**

June 1

My hip replacement surgery at Banner Desert Hospital and the post-surgery recovering at the Friendship Village nursing facility went very well and I am now home recovering - with visiting home care nursing and therapist help. The women at Desert palm have been bringing us wonderful meals, each meal and the love behind it has really helped in taking the edge off of the recovery process - reducing the time to heal.

Thank you, Love

*Barbara-Pyle Rodgers,*

To **Jim Durham** and **Mark Klein** for picking up and installing the new carpet in the nursery.

To **Larry Seubert, Dawn Bulriss, Holly Hansen, and Stephanie Maloney** for their leadership at the annual **Mingus Springs Retreat and Family Camp** on Memorial Day weekend.

To our Retiring Church Council Members- **Richard Nearing**- Moderator, **Bill Young**-Church Development, **Rebecca Kennell**-Financial Affairs, **Kathryn Andrews**- Christian Education Ministry, and **Chris Heath**- Youth Member at Large.

To **Elizabeth Matie** for volunteering to tend the east entry and Peace Pole garden, and for doing a superb job trimming the palms in the planters there.

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*Emre and I, on behalf of our family and his, want to thank everyone who sent cards and kept us in their prayers after the death of his sister. We so appreciate your care, concern and love.*

*Peace,  
Michael-Ann*

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## JULY YOUTH AND CHILDREN BIRTHDAYS

7/01/00	Stori Jurgens	11
7/06/03	Cody Rios	8
7/09/06	Kaden Crawley	5
7/13/02	Shannon Maloney	9




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## JULY ANNIVERSARIES



<b>7/05/1967</b>	<b>Jerry &amp; Doris Pridemore</b>	<b>44 years</b>
<b>7/04/1984</b>	<b>Wayne &amp; Audrey Arihood</b>	<b>27 years</b>
<b>7/08/2008</b>	<b>Jon Sywassink &amp; Larry Seubert</b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b>7/10/1982</b>	<b>Bill &amp; Peggy Stewart</b>	<b>29 years</b>
<b>7/15/1972</b>	<b>John &amp; Signe Linda</b>	<b>39 years</b>
<b>7/31/1971</b>	<b>Geoff &amp; Martha Smith</b>	<b>40 years</b>

## JULY ADULT BIRTHDAYS

7/1	Dave Wright	7/16	Gail Vincent
7/4	Marjorie Sellers	7/17	Pam Brumley
7/5	Cyndi Carver		Eunice Fairbanks
7/6	Sharon Des Rosiers	7/21	Signe Linda
	Lil Goes	7/26	John Cochrane
7/7	Ciel VillaWatkins		Travis Pemberton
7/8	Ray Littleford	7/27	Christian Hansen
	Carolyn Parsey	7/28	Blair Sellers
	Mary Snoberger	7/29	Judy O'Neill
7/11	Roy Andrews	7/30	Chris Maloney
7/12	John Herman		
	Sally Jesse		
	Shad Jurgens		
7/13	Lorraine Diehl		
	Tim Roberts		
	Ashley Fuller		
7/14	Chelsea Bond		
	Rene Wright		



## DIRECTORY CHANGES/ADDITIONS

*Wayne and Audrey Arihood: 1016 W. Vaughn Street, Tempe, 85283, (608)780-6044*

*Matthew Heath: 411 N. Kyrene Rd, #163, Chandler, 85226, (480) 200-9122*

*Sharon and Gary Heath: 411 N. Kyrene Rd., #139, Chandler, 85226*

*Cindy Jewett and Lori Nordstrom: 1810 W Goldfinch Way, Chandler, 85286,*

*Cindy: (602) 625-9370      Lori: (602) 214-8417*

*Marty and Lori Shepard: 803 Mendocino Way, Redwood City, CA 94065*

*Kristen Wetzel: 453 N. Alder Court, Gilbert, 85233*

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE:**

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

# July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 3:00 pm I-HELP (Young)
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>5</b> 3:00 pm Caregiver's Meeting	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 1:30 pm Knit Wits
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>12</b> 9:30 am Banner Group	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 3:00 pm I-HELP (Fox)
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00 pm Al-Anon <b>7:00 pm Council Mtg</b>	<b>19</b> 9:30 am Banner Group	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC
<b>24</b> 4:00 pm PAZ (Fox Team)	<b>25</b> 7:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>26</b> 9:30 am Banner Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC
<b>31</b>						

**JULY LECTIONARY**

**Sunday, July 3rd-Third Sunday after Pentecost (Green)** Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67, Psalm 45:10-17. Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.

**Sunday, July 10th-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)** Genesis 25:19-34, Psalm 119:105-112. Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

**Sunday, July 17th-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**Genesis 28:10-19a, Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**Sunday, July 24th-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost (Green)** Genesis 29:15-28, Psalm 105:1-11, 45b Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.

**Sunday, July 31st-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (Green)** Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-7, 15. Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21