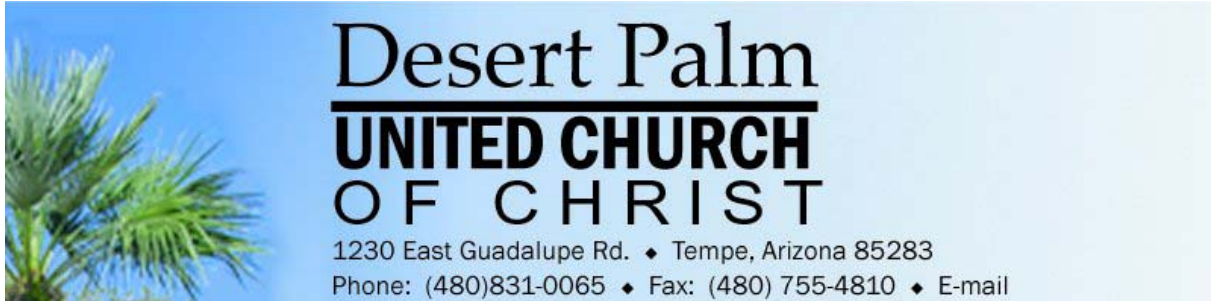


# THE BREEZE

June 2011



**Volume 32- Number 6. Published Monthly  
Desert Palm United Church of Christ  
Pastor: John F. Herman**

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**CHURCH LEADERS:**

Moderator: Richard Nearing  
Moderator Elect: Bill Albert  
Clerk: Mark Williams  
Financial Secretary: Marlene Schanz  
Treasurer: Randy Bulriss  
Christian Education:  
    Kathryn Andrews & Samantha Fox  
Church Development: Bill Young  
Community/World: Bev Crawford  
Fellowship: Larry Seubert  
Facilities Management: Phillip Scott  
Financial Affairs: Rebecca Kennell  
Spiritual Life and Worship: Linda Stewart  
Youth Member-at-Large: Christopher Heath

**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

## **SPRING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Desert Palm's End-Of Program-Year Meeting will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday June 5, immediately following worship.

### **Tentative agenda:**

- Call to order and opening prayer. Declaration of quorum
- Receiving/ correcting/ accepting the Minutes of the January 23 Congregational meeting. *(Published in the Annual Report, copies available on Sundays or in the Church Office)*
- Ratifying the appointment by Council of Mark Williams as Church Clerk through June 30, 2012
- Action on Council recommendations relating to capital projects about worship and outreach.
- Election of Officers and Ministry Chairs for class of 2013. (Nominating Committee report is printed in the Annual Report) Moderator: Bill Albert. Financial Secretary: Marlene Schanz. Youth Member-at-Large: Michelle Bulriss. Christian Education Ministry Leader: Marie Parsey, Financial Affairs Ministry Leader: Kent Utter. Church Development Ministry Leader: (\_\_\_\_)
- Thanks to outgoing officers and ministry chairs.

### **Following are the motions related to the Capital Improvement projects:**

Last autumn, Council created two task forces to study and make recommendations to explore projects to enhance and improve worship and to improve our physical visibility within the community. These task forces completed studies, consultations, and secured construction proposals, and their recommendations have been submitted to Council. At its May 17, 2011 meeting, the Church Council voted to recommend action by the Congregation at the June 5 Congregational meeting and will introduce the following two motions related to these Capital expenditures:

**"For purposes of enhancing the worship experience of our members and encouraging the growth of our Church, we move that the Congregation undertake a program to upgrade our present sanctuary audio and video systems, including construction of a new audio/video equipment closet/ control room, all at an estimated total cost not to exceed \$25,000, funding for which is available from existing designated accounts and capital funds."**

**"For purposes of enhancing the visibility, sense of welcome, hospitality and growth of our Church, we move that the Congregation undertake a program to upgrade our existing signage along Guadalupe Road, not to exceed \$10,000, funding for which is available from existing accounts."**

### **New Members- June 5**

Joining the Membership of Desert Palm during worship on June 5 (just in time for their first Congregational Meeting!" will be

**Wayne and Audrey Arihood**

**Rose Wilcox**

**Nicky Loughrige**

**Amy Gibson**

**Lori Nordstrom**

**Cindy Jewett**

### **Address Change:**

**Kristen, Katarina, Dalton and Ariana Wetzel/ 453 N Alder Ct/ Gilbert AZ 85233**

## *Dear Friends,*

Our friend Henry “Mr. Wizard” Dahlberg is the owner and host of Mingus Springs Camp, where dozens of members of the Desert Palm family have traditionally spent Memorial Day Weekend together. Henry loves having us up there, because we’re a “wonderful group” to “open” the summer camping season. Henry knows that we’ll leave the place in better shape than we found it. We get it aired out and dusted up, and we also give him a friendly list of things that may need a little extra attention- a drippy faucet, a lamp that needs changing, or a piano that needs tuning. (Actually the piano up there hasn’t been tuned since it fell off the back of a covered wagon 150 years ago! That’s part of its charm.) We also actually have some talented campers who take the initiative and help fix a few things themselves. Why, ten years ago a half-dozen of our more gorilla-like members helped Henry lift a new section of timber into place so that he could begin expanding the big dining hall that summer. Most of us don’t even walk with a limp anymore!

Like so many traditional and transitional things that the church does very well—things like Baptism, Confirmation, Wedding and Funerals, Mingus Springs Camp empowers Desert Palm families to go through significant transitional passages in a safe, nurturing community.

Most of our children caught their first fish up at the camp. Some took their first chilly dip into water that wasn’t confined to a concrete swimming pool. Others hit their first softball, pitched their first horseshoe, incinerated their first marshmallow, burned their lips on their first “smore.” They saw their first deer in the wild, tossed their first Frisbee, and spent an entire 48 hours away from television, got covered with a vermillion blanket of ladybugs or discovered how the front end of a crayfish functions. Some managed to get dirtier than they ever got in their entire lives. And likely they saw more stars than they ever saw in their entire lives, too.

They also got to pitch in with others to do community tasks like serving food or clearing tables, sweeping up their cabins, or picking up trash- even somebody else’s! They may have discovered that working together like that is a shortcut to building new friendships.

Maybe this is the first time anybody ever suggested to them that when you go into the garden of Eden you “shoot only pictures, leave only footprints, and take only memories.”

Maybe this is the first intentional community whose members were uneasy about sitting down to eat without someone offering a word of thanks. Maybe this is the debut experience that uncovered someone’s hidden talent at a Skit Night performance- where cheering and applause accompany everything except a corny joke offered by some grownup, and where everybody knows your name.

As a former UCC camp director from way back in the early 1990’s I remember how our juniors and middle schoolers at week’s end would sometimes express the wish that they could stay at camp for a second week, simply because of the wonderful environment and sense of community that the staff and campers were able to create together. For some children it was more emotionally healthy than their own families. My own perception was that we were trying to model the sort of Christian Community we all wanted our own congregations to be, just as in the church we hope to model the sort of community we wanted our entire world to be.

Why can’t we make that happen? - he sharing, the caring, the genuine sense of concern, sympathy and empathy, the unconditional love that undergirds everything we try to accomplish?

Maybe we simply need to continue to make such things happen in the micro-environment, trusting that God will underline the experience in the memories of our children so that they may become more intentional in making the Dream come true when they have a new generation awaiting ***their*** leadership. After all, the Dream is an ancient one, and it is God’s Dream for the world, acted out by one person at a time. -Even when covered with a vermillion blanket of a million ladybugs!

Grace, Peace, and Love,

*John Herman*

## THANK YOU NOTES - TO....

- ☺ **Jon Sywassink, Kathy Skinner, Holly Herman, Larry Seubert, Michael-Ann and all the children and youth** who worked so hard preparing the Children's Musical this year.
- ☺ **Vivian and Randy Pemberton** for trouble-shooting and refurbishing our wireless microphones.
- ☺ Our delegates to April's Southwest Conference Annual Meeting in Albuquerque: **Lois Arey, Lois and Dick Kenyon, Jo and Jim Vredenburg**, (especially **Jo**. who answered the call to act as secretary for the meeting); plus clergy delegates **Don Arey, Michael-Ann and John Herman**.
- ☺ **David Earll and Ensemble** for a great concert.
- ☺ **Bill Kaszeta** for taking care of the classroom lock.
- ☺ The **Bells of Peace and Chancel Choir**, along with **Jon and Kathy** for their musical presentation at Westchester.
- ☺ **Kari Young** for helping to coordinate the new purchases of outdoor signs.
- ☺ **Phill Scott** and **Bob Carver** for installing the poles out front for temporary banners
- ☺ **Steve Klein** for repairing one of our "tiny toilets."
- ☺ the Sound System Committee: **Carmela Ramirez, Jon Sywassink, Dick Nearing, Bill Kaszeta and Randy Bulriss** for all the time and effort they put into obtaining bids for updating our audio system.

## JUNE LUNCH BUNCH

Join us for Lunch Bunch on Friday June 3rd when **Lorraine Diehl** will show us her video of her time in **Vietnam**. We meet around 11:30 and eat around Noon. As always, bring a dish to share. See you there.

Larry Seubert

## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH SPECIAL OFFERING

On Sunday, June 12th - Pentecost - we will be receiving the **Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering** of the United Church of Christ. This offering builds the UCC's future. It funds new congregations and renews existing ones. The Southwest Conference is partnering with six churches to undergo strategic planning to revitalize their churches, and six new church initiatives are at various stages of development. Our Rev. Jaci Meade Scott is the organizing pastor of one of these new church starts.

This offering also supports programs for youth and young adults and nurtures current and future leaders. And it sends the God is Still Speaking Ministry's message of extravagant welcome and inclusively into our world. Your generous gift today ensures a vibrant church tomorrow.

Please make checks **payable to Desert Palm UCC** and on Memo line, mark for **STC Offering**. Special Offering envelopes will be available June 5th and June 12th.

**Spread the Love. Strengthen the Church. God is Still Speaking.**

Peace,  
Jo Vredenburg

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **2011 PLEDGED RECEIPTS AS OF 4/30/11**

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

\$67,791 – Actual 2011 pledged receipts as of 4/30/11.

(\$67,191 paid during 2011 and \$600 paid in 2010 for 2011)

\$65,350 -- Pledged amount due as of 4/30/11 (33% of year)

25% of accounts have paid less than the total pledged to date. Resulting in a **'shortage' of \$4,202.**

(Last year 26% had paid less as of April 30<sup>th</sup>.)

59% are right on target. (Last year 49% were current.)

16% of accounts have paid more than amount due, resulting in advance payments of \$6,520, which will be applied to future months. (Last year 25% 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)

## **CAREGIVER TASK FORCE UPDATE**

This past January many Desert Palm members completed a survey about caregiving needs in our congregation. The Caregiver Task Force compiled the information and presented it in summary form to the Church Council in February. The Church Council commissioned the Task Force to continue developing a comprehensive program for care giving within the congregation.

The Task Force has continued to meet monthly and is now adapting a Training Manual that was originally developed by Verde Valley Caregivers in the Sedona area for lay caregivers. We are also developing guidelines for various care giving services, as well as an orientation program for those members who indicated a willingness to provide one or more of the services.

We anticipate that the program will formally start in October, with information available in late September, and an orientation program to be offered in early October.

Thank you for your interest and we will provide periodic updates through the summer and into the fall.

Leslie Shamp-Beaver, Task Force Chair  
Don Arey, Barb Hofflander, John Linda,  
Dick Nearing, Sandy Kaszeta

## **FAIR TRADE COFFEE SALES WILL RETURN ON SEPTEMBER 10 . . .**

but if you need coffee during the next three months, give me a call, email me, or talk to me after church and I will see that you get your java fix.

**Barbara Hofflander** 480-821-2592  
hofflander@ocx.net

## **SPECIAL MUSIC FOR THE SUMMER**

Anyone who would like to share their musical talents for worship services in June, July or August can contact Jon Sywassink at (480) 763-4284. Instrumental and vocal solos or groups of all ages are more than welcome!

## Honored by Southwest Conference Justice and Witness Committee



At this year's Meeting of the Southwest Conference in Albuquerque last month, the Southwest Conference Justice and Witness Committee and its chair, Rev. Phil Reller, surprised our own **Dick Kenyon** in recognition of his extensive Voter Registration work in Maricopa County last spring and summer. In addition to recruiting other volunteers (including Desert Palm folks Judy O'Neill, Barbara Pyle Rodgers, Stephanie and Duncan Maloney, and Leland Fairbanks), Dick personally and repeatedly knocked on the doors of practically every non-registered voter in his own precinct- in the heat of summer. (photo: John Dorhauer)

### JUNE ADULTS BIRTHDAYS

6/3	Mary Courtney	6/17	Bill Albert
6/4	June Andrews		Dain Williams
6/8	Chelsey Megli	6/20	Jo Vredenburg
6/9	Suzanne Linda	6/24	Barney Lynn
	Leslie Schefski	6/26	Pepper Denham
6/11	Phyllis Perkins		Deberah Lynn
6/12	Cassie Megli		
6/16	Joyce Trumbull		

## 2011 CAPS AND GOWNS

**Meredith Bond** graduated from Northern Arizona University in May, with a major in Emergency Services Administration, and is now working in that field with the Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management.



**Nora Dillon** graduated from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law on Saturday, May 14th. Nora was a Note and Comment Editor for the *Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law*, and recently won the Richard Grand Closing Argument Competition. She is currently preparing for the bar exam, and will be joining the Phoenix law firm of Tiffany and Bosco, P.A.

**Dave Earll** was awarded his Masters Degree in Tuba Performance from Arizona State University, and has been accepted to begin work there on his Doctorate.

**Jeremy Zuniga** graduated from Red Mountain High School in Mesa, is currently working two jobs and also in the admission process to attend Arizona State University.



**Cassie Megli** received her Master's Degree in Education from Harvard University on May 26. She'll be remaining in the greater Boston area for a while where her fiancé is working.

## June Anniversaries

6/01/2001	David and Joan Butler	10 years
6/02/1990	Gigi Schultz & Gena Wilson	21 years
6/03/1978	Mark & Stephanie Williams	33 years
6/08/1945	Roy & June Andrews	66 years
6/08/1968	Bob & Cyndi Carver	43 years
6/09/1963	Bill & Bert Albert	48 years
6/18/1960	Bill & Phyllis Perkins	51 years
6/18/1983	Paul & Becky Lull	28 years
6/20/1987	Chris & Stephanie Maloney	24 years
6/22/1974	Steve & Becky Klein	37 years
6/25/1967	Dan and Mary Courtney	44 years
6/29/1985	George & Deborah Hodge-Moakley	26 years



## JUNE-CHILDREN BIRTHDAYS

6/4/03	Jesse Crawley	8
6/6/96	Carly Pemberton	15

## Vacation Bible School - Items Needed

**Only a few items are left on our list of needed supplies. Please sign up on the sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board if you are able to provide any of the items listed below. The items are needed by June 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support!**

### Craft Items Needed

small to med. boxes for sharing box (keepsake)  
 24 empty cereal boxes  
 24 red plastic forks  
 4 bottles of tacky glue  
 24 white ceramic tile  
 adhesive spray for the tile  
 Yellow felt (50 sheets)

### Snack Items Needed

1 box Golden Grahams cereal  
 16 oz. part skim ricotta cheese  
 1 aerosol can whipped cream

**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)

# June 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC  3:00 pm I-HELP (Thornton)
<b>5</b> <i>10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting</i> 12:00 pm-3:00 pm Blood Drive @ Gethsemane Lutheran Church	<b>6</b> VBS 9:00 am-12:00 pm  7:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>7</b> VBS 9:00 am-12:00 pm	<b>8</b> VBS 9:00 am-12:00 pm	<b>9</b> VBS 9:00 am-12:00 pm	<b>10</b> VBS 9:00 am-12:00 pm	<b>11</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC  1:30 pm Knit Wits
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  7:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>14</b> .	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC  3:00 pm I-HELP (Schanz)
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  7:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>21</b>  7:00 pm Council Mtg	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC
<b>26</b>  4:00 pm PAZ (Holly's Team)	<b>27</b>  7:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		

**JUNE LECTIONARY**

Sunday, June 5th-Seventh Sunday of Easter (White)  
 Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11, John 17:1-11  
 Sunday, June 12th-Pentecost Sunday (Red)  
 Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13, John 20:19-23  
 Sunday, June 19th-Trinity Sunday, First Sunday after Pentecost (White or Green)  
 Genesis 1:1-2:4a, Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13, Matthew 28:16-20  
 Sunday, June 26th-Second Sunday after Pentecost (Green)  
 Genesis 22:1-4, Psalm 13, Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 10:40-42