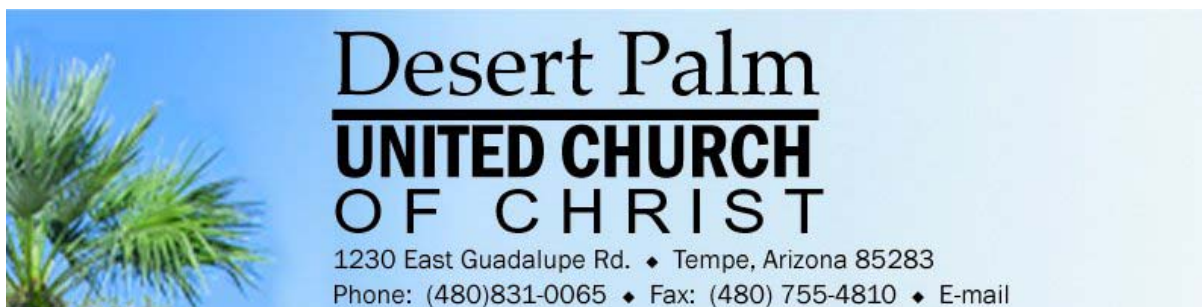


THE BREEZE

October 2011



Volume 32- Number 10 - 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

Office Volunteer: Cyndi Carver

Nursery: Kristin Wetzel

MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

Minister of Music: Jon Sywassink

Pianist: Eric Carlson

Dear Friends,

“Are we there yet?” -famous quotation from almost any child under 12.

“Are you through in there?” -famous quotation from any family member standing looking toward a closed bathroom door.

“Are you done yet?” or maybe it was **“When will it be done?”** -famous quotation from Rex Harrison (Pope Julius II) to Charlton Heston (Michelangelo) in the 1965 Oscar- winner *The Agony and the Ecstasy*.

The “it” in the last quotation was the process of painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, one of the most well-known pieces of religious art in Christendom. The practical Julius simply could not comprehend why it was taking so blessed long to draw a handful of pictures. I suppose the perpetual scaffolding and dropcloths distracted his ability to worship- or to be able to “wow” visiting dignitarie\$.

Distractions and delays must be good for the soul or something, because there are so many of them in our lives. The installation of the equipment that has the potential to enhance our own worship experience at Desert Palm has been a distraction to us as well. It seems like things ought to be up and running as soon as they’re plugged in.

So here’s where we are at this moment:

Everything’s installed, although there are some cosmetic things and readjustments we’ll be working on.

Since the August Breeze we’ve been urging all members of Desert Palm to attend one of Scottsdale UCC’s “Studio” services, held at 11:00 every Sunday, just to gain some informed perspective and first-hand insight into the possibilities for us here. We’ve asked for confidential feedback about what “works” and what doesn’t. Two months after issuing that invitation, we have been underwhelmed by feedback.

On **September 18**, people formally signed up to become trained in operating all the equipment, and another group expressed interest in becoming part of the team(s) that would develop weekly visual resources for our worship.

On **October 4** those interested groups will have an initial meeting together to work out the details of training and scheduling, and also to schedule a few specific dates to visit Scottsdale UCC and other congregations to experience the ways they are utilizing this technology.

Following that meeting our **technical team** will receive training and take over the actual operation the equipment each Sunday.

Our **“Content” teams** will begin working in PowerPoint, exploring resource sites, and determining the most effective ways we can utilize the technology, which will gradually be introduced into our worship experiences.

We’ll also be making certain that we are in compliance with all appropriate **copyright laws** and that we obtain **licensing agreements** for everything we project.

None of this will happen overnight, but we are blessed to have a committed group of people doing their best to bring us up to speed, particularly ***Carmela Ramirez*** and ***Rebecca Kennell***, without whose enthusiasm and drive we would still be dealing with the ancient technology of the Twentieth Century.

Someday I hope we’ll smile at some of our more troublesome moments these early months, as we got acclimated to change. I suspect Rex Harrison felt that the masterpiece he eventually experienced was worth all the inconvenience.

Grace, Peace, and Love,

John

Notes from the September 19 Church Council Meeting

Financial Affairs Ministry Team Leader **Kent Utter** reports he has done a formal observation of our Sunday offering counting process, has performed a spot audit on expenditures of the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and will now be initiating an inventory of assets for insurance purposes.

Community World Ministries Leader **Bev Crawford** and her team have now distributed the Mission Calendar.

Linda Stewart, Spiritual Life and Worship reports that continuing discussion are beings held on the need for permanent committee or committees to handle the new sanctuary electronic equipment and to work toward incorporating it more fully in worship.

Council then approved receiving special **pet-related offerings** on October 9, the Blessing of the Animals.

Note, on September 6-7 Council voted by email to allow **United Blood Services** to use our parking lot and specific rooms as a rest stop/ water stop for its **"Tour de Hero" bicycling fundraiser on January 28, 2012**. **Dennis Brown** has agreed to be the liaison with UBS for this even, and Desert Palm will be listed as one of the event sponsors on all publicity.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF 2011 PLEDGED RECEIPTS AS OF 8/31/11

\$196,081 – Total 2011 pledges by 93 accounts
\$125,967 – Actual 2011 pledged receipts as of 8/31/11.
(\$125,367 paid during 2011 and \$600 paid in 2010 for 2011)
\$131,374 -- Pledged amount due as of 8/31/11 (8 months/67% of year)

28% of accounts have paid less than the total pledged to date. Resulting in a **'shortage' of \$10,435**. (Last year 22% had paid less as of Aug. 31st.) There are still 5 accounts that have paid zero for this year.

47% are right on target. (Last year 52% were current.)

25% of accounts have paid more than amount due, resulting in advance payments of \$5,529, which will be applied to future months. (Last year 26% had paid in advance.)

PLEASE NOTE—Our pledged receipts are down. During the Month of October you will receive your quarterly statement of contributions as of Sept. 30th. At that time the Council will also be working on next year's budget. The estimate of pledged receipts for the year of 2011 will be used in budget calculations for 2012. Therefore, if your pledged amount needs adjusting, please contact the Financial Secretary.

Thank you to all for your continued support.

Marlene Schanz, Financial Secretary
480-634-7716 mmschanz118@cox.net

OCTOBER THANK YOU LIST

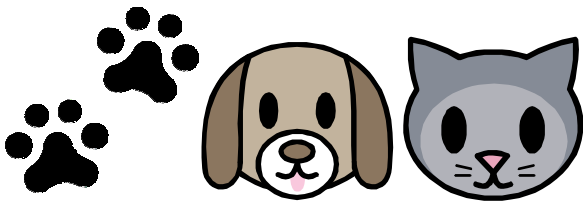
- To everyone who added their names to our mission groups and our new ministries information on **Fiesta Sunday** (Caregivers Ministry, Audio Visual Tech group, Worship Visual Enhancement team, Justice & Witness ministry, and the Capital Improvements Task Force), and to our Council and Ministry Leaders for the great refreshments!
- To **Sue Truax**-a friend of Desert Palm, and her daughter **Bonnie Miller** for the gift of 200 new stuffed animals to Arizona Adoption and Foster Care. Bonnie's 17 year old daughter, Lauren Miller, succumbed to the West Nile Virus in December 2008 after being in a vegetative state for four years-and being lovingly cared for by her family. Sue and Bonnie are hopeful that these "Lauren's Legacy Cuddables" will bring joy and comfort to the children receiving them. Thanks also to **Pat Brandt** for coordinating this with **Beverly Crawford**-who arranged with Melanie Reyes to accept the gift for AAFC.
- To **Bob Carver** for skillfully repairing the desk drawer in the church office, and then changing hats and toolboxes to tackle replacing the innards of one of those intimidating industrial flush valves in the children's lavatory.
- To **Bill Kaszeta** for embedding and routing much of the new audio/video cables and wiring "out of sight," and for rigging up an electrical relay system to power up the big wall speakers. Bill also switches toolboxes regularly to other work venues and has cut pruned and removed green waste from the trees that were damaged by the "summer winds."
- To **Jennifer Markus** for graciously providing childcare during our meeting on September 25.
- To **Jon Sywassink and Larry Seubert** for painting the organ speakers to match the sanctuary paint (all those "decorative boxes" in the area above the west patio doors).
- To **Eric Carlson** for the beautiful piano music.
- To **Carmela Ramirez** for being our Ad Hoc A. V. technician
- To **Jo Vredenburg, Sandy Kaszeta, our Sunday School Teachers and children and youth** for the creation of our 9/11/11 Hands and Words are not for Hurting banner.
- To our newest **Acolytes** for their gifts of service to our church: **Danielle, Arianna and Delmy.**

FROM YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY TEAM--

-A BIG "thank you" goes out to our Church Development 'Team Leaders.' They are the ones who call you every four months to usher, greet, be our worship leader or man the hospitality table after church. Without their planning and the giving nature of all the volunteers our services would certainly not run so smoothly. Thank you to **Ray Littleford, Bill Young, Paula Teichman** and **Leslie Schefski**. And thank you again to the wonderful, smiling volunteers that serve our church. (An FYI, our lists are getting a little lopsided so some people may have to be put under another Team Leader that is short of volunteers. If you have any objections to this, please tell your team leader. If you would like to participate in any one or ALL of the positions, please call Pat Lantrip, Church Development at (480) 227-2170.) Thanks so much!!

MUSICAL NOTE THANK YOU

Thank you to the people who provided music through singing or playing instruments for our worship services this summer: **Kathy Berry, Rebecca Bond, Michael Bulriss, Michelle Bulriss, Beverly Byington, Dale Frank, Amy Heisler, Holly Herman, Michael McCall, Susan McCall, Lori Shepard, Kathy Skinner, Rosann Steffensmeier** and **Leonora Stephanoff.**



Look what is coming to Desert Palm United Church of Christ! On Sunday, October 9, 2011 at 4:00 pm, Pastors John and Michael-Ann will officiate at our very first -

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Pack up the babies – and grab the old ladies – and everyone go – well that is if you are a non-human critter! Bring your dogs, cats, bunnies, rats, horses, reptiles, birds, etc, etc, etc to have them blessed by Pastors John and Michael-Ann.

We will also be accepting two types of donations both at Sunday service and at the Blessing.

Monetary donations will go to the Emergency Medical Fund administered by PACCC911. PACCC911 is a coalition of many different rescue groups whose sole charter is to facilitate adoption events for the Phoenix area rescue community. The Emergency Medical Fund is available to any of the rescue organizations that may need extra help paying for special veterinary services to save a life.

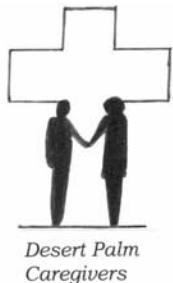
We will also be collecting critter food during the children's time and at the blessing and those contributions will be given to Empty Bowls Pet Food Pantry. Empty Bowls Pet Food Pantry is a food bank for animals allowing a family (including homeless) the ability to keep their beloved companions by providing food. All canned and dry varieties are appreciated.

Both of these local charities provide invaluable services to the Valley's pet community. **Please make checks payable to Desert Palm UCC with "Animal Blessing" as the subject line.**

The custom of Blessing of the Animals was first begun in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi (a Franciscan monk), who was inspired to call all living creatures his brothers and sisters. I hope we can make this an annual tradition to request a special blessing for our companion animals. So bring your leashed, crated, caged, tanked, boxed or free-range doggies, kitties, hamsters, horses, pigs, turtles, snakes, lizards, fish, and birds to Desert Palm's labyrinth area, and Pastors John and Michael-Ann will welcome each animal with a special prayer.

"The love we give to a pet, and receive from a pet, can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life, into the wonder of our common relationship to our Creator. It's no wonder that people enjoy the opportunity to take their animal companions to church for a special blessing. Church is the place where the bond of creation is celebrated." Kevin E. Mackin, O.F.M.

(If you would like to be more involved or assist on Oct. 9, please contact Pat Smith.)



Desert Palm UCC Caregivers
"Caregiving When You Need it Most"
480-235-3922

The Desert Palm Caregivers will begin providing services to members, their immediate family members and regular attendees of Desert Palm UCC on **Monday, October 10, 2011.**

Services include:

- Grocery Shopping
- Transportation to doctor appointments
- Short term meals (up to three days)
- Home repairs
- Visitation
- Respite Care
- Telephone Calling
- E mail buddy
- Loan of a Guardian Angel Phone to those living alone
- Loan of many kinds of durable medical goods

To request services please call the Caregivers phone line
Monday-Friday 9 AM-5PM
A coordinator will assist you with your request.

***In order to provide good service for you, please call Caregivers 48 hours in advance.
In case of an emergency, remember to call 911.***

***DPUCC Caregivers can be reached from Monday through
Friday,
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at (480) 235-3922.***



Café Justo will be on sale
Sunday, October 9, 2011
after church.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE BAKING

Instead of Christmas Bread, this year we are going to bake Christmas cookies for the homeless in Tempe and the veterans at Victory Place in South Phoenix.

On **Saturday, November 5th starting at 8AM** we will bake cookies in the church kitchen. All are invited to help!

Bring your favorite recipe and ingredients with you. Bowls, spoons, spatulas, cooling racks, measuring cups and spoons, and baking pans will be provided.

If **you cannot come on Nov. 5th**, please bake some cookies at home and bring them to church by December 15th.

Also needed are **cardboard food containers** like the kind that Chinese food comes in. They have a string or metal handle. They are available at Michaels, JoAnnes and most 99cents or dollar stores.

We will pack the cookies in these containers.

For further information, please call Lorraine Diehl at 602-400-4843

October Lunch Bunch

Join us **Friday October 7th around 11:30.** Bring a dish to share. We will eat around Noon. If you did not get a chance to tell us about your summer, now is your chance. If you have anything else to add to the program please contact Larry Seubert at jsywas@aol.com.

Some of you have checked out the book for November or downloaded it to your Kindle. If you haven't, the book is called **"Same Kind of Different as Me..."** by **Ron Hall**. It is a short read and should be a good fit for Desert Palm.



Dear DPUCC Members: This year's CROP Hunger Walk will be on November 13th, 2011, we will gather with others in our community to fight hunger both here and around the world. We need Walkers and sponsors for the **East Valley** CROP Hunger Walk at El Dorado Park in Scottsdale.

Please reply to Barney Lynn for more details and to sign up to be a Walker, a sponsor, or both. You may also call **Barney** at **602.757.8568** or **just see me at church**. Last year, **DPUCC** had **3 walkers, one two legged and two four legged**, and we'd like to see many more represent this year! Please click on or cut and paste to your browser the following link as it has several examples of why DPUCC should be more involved in CROP.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jKGzn0ER-LI>

Thanks for helping feed the hungry both in our community and throughout the world. Hope to see you out there in November.

Kindest Regards,
Barney Lynn
Blynn8@cox.net
602.757.8568

10 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO FIGHT GLOBAL WARMING!

1. Recycle and buy minimally packed goods as much as possible.
 2. Wash clothes in cold or warm water, NOT hot.
 3. Install low-flow shower heads to use less water.
4. Run the dishwasher only when full and don't use heat to dry dishes.
 5. Replace standard light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
6. Plug air leaks in windows and doors to increase energy efficiency.
 7. Replace old appliances with energy-efficient models.
8. Walk, bike, carpool or use public transportation whenever possible.
9. Adjust your thermostat -- lower in winter, higher in summer.
10. Share these simple steps with friends and family and increase awareness!

Your Environmental Task Force---
Dick Nearing

SUNDAY AFTERNOON ON
THE GREEN IN NEW HAVEN

TARYN WILLIAMS AND GREG RAWSON

WERE MARRIED AT THE HISTORIC
CENTER CHURCH ON THE GREEN

SEPTEMBER 4, 2011

THE COUPLE WILL BE MAKING THEIR
HOME IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY
AREA



October Anniversaries



10/09/99	John and Holly Herman	12 yrs.
10/12/58	Joyce and Ken Trumbull	53 yrs.
10/15/70	Warren and Gayle Mills	41 yrs.
10/16/99	Linda and Don Marczeski	12 yrs.
10/20/45	Ann and Bill Stroebel	66 yrs.
10/21/96	Cindi and Kip Carroll	15 yrs.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/1	Jenna Skinner
10/3	Carolyn Mann
10/7	Susan McCall
10/12	Christopher Heath
10/14	Hazel Dion
10/16	Stephen Parsey
10/18	Leland Fairbanks
10/19	Gigi Schultz
	Kent Utter
10/20	Joan Butler
	Colleen Pittman
10/21	Barb Nearing
10/22	Deborah Hodge-Moakley
10/24	Marion Durham
	Chris Koehn
10/25	Pat Lantrip
10/27	Michelle Paul
10/28	David Butler
10/29	Becky Klein





Children's Sabbath October 16th

What is it? Children's Sabbath is an interfaith national observance sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund and begun in 1973. It has been created to celebrate and uplift the needs of children, as well as to highlight our global adult responsibilities to children. The theme this year is "Justice, Justice Shall You Pursue: Answering God's Call to Protect Children?"

Learning More! Check in the bulletin each week in October for information regarding children and our society as we embrace Children's Sabbath on the 16th.

What Will We Do? During worship, our children and youth will participate in various ways that fit their gifts. Please join us for worship to celebrate and uplift not only our Desert Palm children, but the children of the world.

Cookies and Cupcakes and Treats, Oh My!

The **Arizona Adoption and Foster Care** children, in their ghost and witch and superhero costumes, will once again be seeking to satisfy their cravings for our sweet treats at the **AAFC Halloween Party on Oct. 22nd**. This year the party has been moved to **Riverview Park in Mesa** so that the children from the East Valley Child Crisis Center can join them. The agency is hoping we can supply the goodies for the **Cake Walk** as we have done for the past several years. **Our goal is 100 Treats!**

Once again, our youth will plan an evening decorating the cakes/cupcakes if you want to bring the baked goods **to the church by Friday, Oct. 21th**. If you want to supply decorated items, please have them at the church by 9 AM on Saturday the 22nd. Being able to provide a treat for their family is a treat these kids rarely get to enjoy. Such a simple pleasure- so easy for us to facilitate.

In addition to the Halloween Party on the 22nd, there will be a 1 mile Fun Run and 5 K Run to benefit AAFC and the Child Crisis Center. For more information about those activities, see www.childcrisis.org/1Walk/

October 2011

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 6-8:00 am LPC 9:00 am Caregiver's Training (Library) 3:00 pm I-HELP
2 10:30 am Caregiver's Training (Library) 10:30 am New Member Orientation-(West Wing)	3 7:00 pm Al-Anon	4 9:30 am Banner Group (Library) 1:30 pm Caregiver's Training (Library) 4:45 pm Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 pm AV Teams-organizational Mtg.	5 6:30 pm Bells of Peace 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	6	7 11:30 am Lunch Bunch	8 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 1:30 pm Knit Wits (Mission Hall)
9 4:00 pm Blessing of the Animals	10 7:00 pm Al-Anon	11 9:30 am Banner Group (Library)	12 6:30 pm Bells of Peace 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	13	14	15 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC 3:00 pm I-HELP (Team Marlene)
16 Children's Sabbath	17 7:00 pm Al-Anon 7:00 pm Council Mtg	18 9:30 am Banner Group (Library)	19 6:30 pm Bells of Peace 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	20	21	22 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC
23 Oktoberfest Party - 11:00	24 7:00 pm Al-Anon	25 9:30 am Banner Group (Library)	26 6:30 pm Bells of Peace 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	27	28	29 6:00 am-8:00 am LPC
30 Reformation Sunday	31 7:00 pm Al-Anon					

LECTIONARY FOR OCTOBER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (GREEN)
 EXODUS 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20, PSALM 19, PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14, MATTHEW 21:33-46

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (GREEN)
 EXODUS 32:1-14, PSALM 106:1-6, 19-23, PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9, MATTHEW 22:1-14

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (GREEN)
 EXODUS 33:12-23, PSALM 99, 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10, MATTHEW 22:15-22

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (GREEN)
 DEUTERONOMY 34:1-12, PSALM 90:1-6, 13-17, 1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-8, MATTHEW 22:34-46

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, REFORMATION SUNDAY (RED)
 JOSHUA 3:7-17, PSALM 107:1-7, 33-37, 1 THESSALONIANS 2:9-13, MATTHEW 23:1-12