



The Chimes

Traditional Services 8:30 & 10:15 am - Praise Service: 11:15 am in the Taylor Fine Arts

April, 2008

47-321 Hwy 74 * Palm Desert, CA 92260 * 760-346-8195 * www.pdpresby.org

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Church Staff

- Pastor - Doug Garrard
- Associate Pastor - Denn Denning
- Transitional Associate
- Pastor - Julie Hodges
- Interim Church Administrator - Floyd Vail
- Director, Youth Ministries- Jonathan Brown
- Asst. Director of Youth Ministries - Kathy Aposhian
- Director of Children's Ministries - Diana Miller
- Volunteer & Event Coordinator -Shirley Darrow

Stephen Ministry

12 New Ministers Commissioned

On Sunday, April 6th, twelve newly trained Stephen Ministers were commissioned by the Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church family. Commissioning reinforces the identity, the accountability, and the authority of Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers. It provides them with a reference point in time where they have been set apart for this ministry.

By publicly commissioning Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers, the congregation gives them the authority in Christ to accomplish their ministry and holds them accountable to the entire Christian community for their

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Mending Hearts

Submitted by Maureen Mulcahey

A special thanks goes to **Gene and Marilyn Swensen** for their donation of Beanie Baby toys. Some have been sent to Tenwick Hospital, some to Robyn Moore for her now out-of-hospital work in Kenya and some to Mercy Ship Headquarters. God fills in the details so our love travels.

Thanks to **Fritz Hinterser** for repairing a sewing machine donated by our special **Dawn Skiland**. It had sentimental value to Dawn and we are grateful to have it since two new sewers do not have their own.

Another thank you goes to **Victoria Allen** for her Sunday table arrangements. Periodically even she gets a

surprise donation. Last month it was a bag of many pink and purple Princess dolls. They were dressed with dancing clothes and crowns! Please tell us who gets this thank you.

Thank you also to whoever donated the two large hand-knotted blankets. They will be sent to Mercy Ships along with adult hospital gowns which are being designed by **Martha Owens**, one of our enthusiastic workers.

A newer member, **Carol Jones**, is involved with an organization going to India this fall. (Hope Force International) Besides the 3,000 (yes, three thousand) wheelchairs they will be delivering,

we are hoping Mending Hearts can be of assistance. As you see, we get around!

Just one more thank you—to our Women's Ministries which pays postage to Indiana (for World Gospel Missions) and to Texas (for Mercy Ships). Many of you made this possible by donating to, working for and buying at the Women's Ministries Annual Sale. Together we can accomplish much to spread God's love.

Mending Hearts meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday 9-12. Come even for a little while.

P.S. - We would appreciate any fluff/stuffing to fill our teddy bears. Thank you for your support!

From Pastor Doug Garrard

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Psalm 32:8

Chuck Swindoll wrote what follows in the book entitled, **Stress Fractures**. I share this with you because of the assurance that it emphasizes and because of the encouragement it gives to each of us to extend our lives to glorify God each day.

“But being absolutely confident and comforted in the fact that my salvation is secure, based on God’s keeping power, not mine, all cause for anxiety is removed. I may tremble on the rock, but the rock never trembles under me! And that inner assurance not only relieves my fear, it allows me to carry on with much greater efficiency. Rather than causing me to be indifferent and irresponsible, it inspires me to direct all my energies toward those things that please and glorify the name of my heavenly Father. I am eternally protected because he has me in his all-powerful hand.”

“In 1937, the famous Golden Gate Bridge was completed. At that time, it was the world’s longest suspension bridge. The entire project cost the United States government \$77 million. During the process of constructing the first section of the bridge, very few safety devices were used, resulting in twenty-three accidental deaths as workers fell helplessly into the waters far below.

The toll was so significant, something had to be done before that second section was built. An ingenious plan was arranged. The largest safety net in the world (it alone cost \$100,000!) was made out of stout manila cordage and stretched out beneath the work crews. It proved to be an excellent investment in view of the fact that it saved the lives of at least ten men who fell into it without injury. Interestingly, the work went 25 percent faster, since the workers were relieved from the fear of falling to their deaths.”

“God’s great net of security spans this globe. No matter where His children live, He has stretched out His everlasting arms beneath them. As a result, every one of us can live and work freely and fearlessly, knowing that we are protected, safe, secure, sealed, and kept by His power.”

We are together in Christ! God Bless you!

Pastor Doug

Introducing Your Scholarship Recipients

MEET LAUREN CHRISTIAN

Thanks to your donations, the PDCPC Christian Student Scholarship Committee is blessed to be able to support qualified members of our church who are pursuing a degree in higher education. This month we would like to introduce you to Lauren Christian, who is studying Youth Ministry at Colorado Christian University.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

The PDCPC Christian Student Scholarship Committee is now accepting Scholarship Applications for the 2008-2009 Academic Year. Applications are available in the church office or can be emailed by calling 760 346-8195. The completed application must be returned no later than May 1. If you have any questions or comments, please call Gene Nicholas at 760 674-3150.



As a zero based budget program, the committee can only allocate funds already received. The 2007-2008 budget was \$22,000. Contributions come from various church groups and individual donors. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

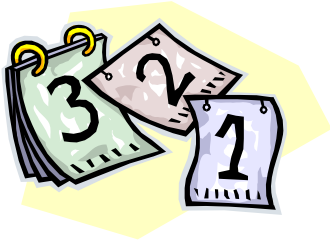
To the Church,

Words cannot describe the treasure you have bestowed upon me. It would be easy to assume in my mentioning of treasure that I am simply referring to the scholarship money given to me, and yes, that in, and of itself, would be gracious enough. However, I am specifically referring to the wealth of knowledge I've received and been able to pursue because of the graciousness of the body at Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church and the loving God from whose hands it flows. Countless times in scripture it heeds us to be wise and to be diligent, with our time and treasures. Your time and treasures and personal investments in my education, and my relationship with God, have been inestimable in my growth and development.

I grew up at Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church. I've been able to see where we've come from, and even more exciting where we, and the people I've met in the church are going. The church has supported me since I was little allowing me to develop and explore my own context of faith and life and what that all means. With unfailing faithfulness the church has continued to support me these past years in my college education as I pursue a degree in Youth Ministry at Colorado Christian University. I entered into the program at C.C.U. a completely different person than I am today and I feel that the changes made were from God's own hands, shaping and molding me.

Through my education I have learned from some of the most brilliant teachers who've spent their lives in ministry. I've learned from these people's strengths, but I've also learned from their weakness. These teachers have shared with me the mistakes they've made in life, faith, and ministry and given me life lessons they've had to learn the hard way. These teachers have not only exemplified a scholarly archetype but have exemplified a Christ like archetype as well. These teachers have made a personal investment in my own faith journey. They have met with me for hours, to encourage me in my walk, and to

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Happenings

People to Thank

Another Year of Wonderful Mariner Adventures Comes to an End

Thanks to **Bev and Allen Johnson**, and **Lois and Bob Whitney** for their leadership and planning of our exciting Mariners bus trip adventures this year. We gratefully acknowledge all the hours of work they have provided to make these trips so outstanding this year.

As those who have participated know, each bus adventure had its own high lights—the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit, the Christmas Carol and Glory of Christmas presentations, the music of White Christ-

mas, the wondrous tour of the Coachella Valley, and, the jewel of the season, the trip to Santa Barbara and the Hearst Castle. And what better way to end the schedule than with the Easter finale of the Pageant of our Lord. Each trip offered outstanding fellowship and drama.

The Mariner leaders spent many hours in preparing and finalizing the plans for each trip. Bob and Lois faithfully answered questions and collected money each Sunday at the Mariner Booth. Bev and Allen made

numerous phone calls, coordinated with and reserved just the right rooms at hotels, made preparations for meals and special events, planned devotionals, secured the bus and contacted all “trippers”.

Thank you also to **Chuck Haver** for making the financial accounting always work perfectly, and for having the balance sheet ready at a moments notice.

All who have participated this year, and in the past, say a special thank you to you five faithful servants.

Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord

Yes, Shirley is back to work at the church - PTL! It is so good to be back to work and to get all the hugs and ‘welcome backs’ from all of you.

Easter was early this year. What a wonderful celebration here at PDCPC! The four beautiful services, the Easter lilies, the inspirational music, all contributed to making our Easter celebration special. Thank you to all who helped to make that happen. Christ is risen - He is risen indeed!

April 27th - May 3rd is National Volunteer Week, with a theme of “Volunteers

are the Heart of the Church”. There is no doubt that Workers in the Vine-

“I am the vine and you are the branches. Remain in me and you will bear much fruit.”
John 15:5

yard of the Lord are the heart of the church. Without you, the many activities of the church would never happen. You are all so special and very much appreciated.

As we head into the warmer season, many of you will be leaving for your summer homes.

Thank you to all our winter residents who have given so much to the success of PDCPC during this season. May you have a great summer. We look forward to your return in the fall. Now is the time when we will be needing help from the year-round people to keep us going through the summer.

Love & Prayers,
Shirley Darrow, Volunteer & Event Coordinator

Dates to Remember

Date for 2008 Christmas Dinner Gala is Set

Mark your calendars. Set aside the time. December 7th from 4:00 to 8:00 is our annual All Church Christmas Dinner Gala. It will be held at the beautiful Palm Valley Country Club on Country Club Drive.

As always, you will experience a lovely evening filled with your friends, a delicious dinner and a de-

*All Church Dinner Gala
December 7th
4:00 to 8:00
Palm Valley Country Club*

lightful program. The planning has been in process for several weeks,

and we can promise you a wonderful time. The country club will be decorated with a traditional Christmas Tree and beautiful poinsettias.

Tickets will be on sale in Fellowship Square starting in October. The cost will be finalized soon, and will be similar to last year. This will be an evening you do not want to miss.



**The Three Sopranos
present**

A Concert of Most-Loved Classics

Featuring Well-known Artists

**Sook Lee
Gail Beckman
Ruthanna Metzgar**

*Sunday, April 6th, 4:00 PM
PDCPC Sanctuary*

Enjoy a Selection of Most-loved Classics!
Puccini's Madam Butterfly, Bernstein's Candide,
Rossini's The Barber of Seville, Mozart's The Marriage
of Figaro, and The Mikado, by Gilbert and Sullivan.

*Suggested Donation—\$10 at the door
Sponsored by the PDCPC Music Department*

Guaranteed Fun Our Annual Ice Cream Social



**7:00 PM
All-you-can-eat
ICE CREAM**

**7:30 PM
VARIETY SHOW
Music,
Talent Acts,
A Sing-Along and**

A few surprise performances
from the church staff!



Friday, May 2, at the Speck Center
\$10/person
(\$8/pp for a party of 4 or more)

This event is the church's annual fundraiser
supporting all of our musical programs and events.

ministry. In this ceremony the congregation recognizes the God-given call that each Stephen Leader and Stephen Minister has received, the gifts that each possesses for this ministry, and the blessings that God has assured for all involved in this ministry.

Each Stephen Minister has received and participated in over fifty hours of training. This educational training and guidance continues while a Stephen Minister is actively serving. Our twelve new Stephen Ministers join fourteen active Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders. They are excited and ready to serve our family of faith at Palm Desert

Community Presbyterian Church.

It is exciting that we now have over thirty trained Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders serving our congregation. We ask for your willingness to receive their ministry of friendship, compassion, listening, spiritual guidance, and love. You will be blessed by this relationship. Please continue to keep all of our Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders in your prayers. Your prayers are vital to this ministry of hope and compassion!

The New Stephen Ministers

Kathy Aposhian, Pat Boege, Sharon Campbell, Dorothy Cleveland, Tamara Cook, Harry Covert, Diane Heffler,

Bob Milbrath, Nancy Parry, Joe Pinkner, Earl Pratt, and Joanne Van Galder.

Active Stephen Ministers

Bobbie Anderson, Donna Boeckman, Ruth Mary Brunsell, Jim Cray, Jean Cryer, Ruth DeWitte, Cheryl French, Maureen Furlong, Marian Hawk, Laurie Hernandez, Barbara Jones, Judy Mettler, Chuck Owen, and Gordon Van Der Boom.

Current Stephen Leaders

Beth Ash, Doug and Jan Garrard, Patti Hartley, Ruth Hunter, Marcia Pitkin, Sharon Ratliff, and Floyd Rhoades, who joined the leadership team in March.

Ruth Hunter and Sharon Ratliff will be stepping down

from leadership this year. We cannot thank them enough for their contribution in helping to establish this ministry. We

Jesus commands us in John 15:12.
"Love one another as I have loved you."
 And Paul reminds us in Galatians 6:2.
"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."

also want to recognize the hard work and dedication provided by the rest of the team, especially Marcia Pitkin, who has served as the coordinator for the last three years.

answer my never ceasing questions. They have made themselves available even at the most inconvenient of times, to sit and talk about my own personal faith, and helped me wrestle with ideas and concepts of the things we're learning. I could not have afforded such an opportunity to meet these great people without your continued support.

At C.C.U. one of the greatest focuses of the campus is the Christian community. The campus is very intentional about fostering and bolstering community among the dorms. Through this opportunity, only available through your support, I have met some very dear brothers and sisters in Christ, who have kept me and my faith alive. These people are friends with whom I will be staying in touch with over my years. I have made dear friends and contacts for my future ministry through your support.

Because of the support from the church I've been able to focus entirely on school work and wrestling through what I'm learning. I've been able to afford all of my books, and school supplies with the money given. Not only that, but I've also been able to attend nation wide conferences hearing the best professionals in my field speak, and have learned from the seminars I've attended. The knowledge I've received from my classes, teachers, and from these conferences is worth its weight in gold. Once again there are no words to describe my thanks to you all because without you I wouldn't have been able to go.

Thank you, for being committed to education in the next generation, for being committed to supporting the faith and life of youth. Thank you for always supporting me, financially, spiritually, emotionally. I look forward to giving back to the Kingdom what I've been given with my education.

God's blessings upon you,
 Lauren Christian

*Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church
47-321 Highway 74
Palm Desert, CA 92260-5946*

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MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Christ-centered church family rooted in Biblical truth. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are passionately committed to love God through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. As believers, we support one another, serve people in need and proclaim the Gospel message to our community and throughout the world.



Make a Fashion Statement and Open up a Conversation

Get a PDCPC Logo Shopping Bag

We have a new wrinkle in an old problem: What to do with those plastic grocery bags from our weekly trip to the market?

The answer is: Buy a PDCPC Logo Shopping Bag that is sturdy and reusable, and you won't have to bring the plastic bags home.

Why? We want to promote better stewardship of our

earth's resources, and we hope the bags will become a point of conversation so we can talk about our church during our shopping outings.

PDCPC's Congregational Life Committee is planning to sell large, reusable, colorful shopping bags after Easter. You will have the opportunity to purchase high quality bags that can be used for a variety of shopping excursions.

These will be on sale in our Fellowship Square starting in April. The price will be \$5.00 per bag to cover the cost of the bag and the imprinting of the Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church name and logo on them.

We will accept cash or checks made out to PDCPC annotated with the words 'Grocery Bag.' Use your bag with pride.