

January – March 2018

# THE CHURCH CRIER

Desert Congregational Church

5688 Sunrise Road, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

[www.desertcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.desertcongregationalchurch.org) 760-361-0086

## Pastor's Message

I have been keeping track of my exact hours lately, mostly for the sake of my conscience—that I have served you and the Lord faithfully and adequately. Of course He, alone is the Judge of my efforts ([1 Corinthians 3:11-15](#); [4:4](#)). It does however; seem right that you would know from time to time, how much your Pastor works.

This past week, I recorded **60 ministry hours**—studying, praying, counseling, visiting, and many general office tasks. This is no boast—I feel I should do so much more.

I do feel this is close to my normal hour total week by week. Most weeks, ministry goes on with the Visiting Nurses and at church (and beyond at least parts of all seven days. Though I try to take one day off when possible; it is usually not a full day).

Again, I am not trying to brag; I love what I do. An old friend asked me recently what I do for a hobby. “Hobby...” I said, “I have lots of hobbies but who has time for a hobby?” and then I thought, “Serving the Lord is *my* hobby.”

The hours I work seem appropriate for me, because many in our church work full time jobs (and more), and then they work still more in the service of the Lord through DCC. However, we need more workers if we are going to fulfill the ministries of DCC.

I expect every person in our church to participate in the ministry of Desert Congregational Church. The Bible declares that this is essential to success in a church ([Ephesians 4:16](#)). For this reason, I expect myself—as an example to the Church ([1 Peter 5:3](#))—to be willing to carry an equally significant load, however I need your help.

Dear friends, it is not simply a responsibility to serve as your Pastor; it is my privilege to serve this church! I hope you feel the same.

Grateful in Christ,

Pastor Allan

**When you think of all that's good, thank God.**



## Upcoming Events

### January

27 Men's Breakfast

### February

12 Women's Fellowship

14 Lent Begins

17 Annual Ladies' Tea

24 Men's Breakfast

### March

10 Saturday Night Church

12 Women's Fellowship

24 Men's Breakfast

29 Lent Ends

## Operation Christmas Child

Many thanks for the generous donations from the Deacons, Women's and Men's Fellowship as well as donations from our congregation. Because you gave from your heart, we were able to send over 170 shoeboxes to children around the world.

For the next few months, we are looking for donations of necklaces, simple craft items and small stuffed animals.

Remember, when children get the box, they also get the Message.

For more information, contact  
Laurel Morrow

**Board Briefs .....**

**Deacons – Wayne Mackey, Chairman**  
**Happy New Year!**

**Trustees – Floyd Carlson, Chairman**  
**Happy New Year!**

**Christian Ed – Peggy Freshour, Chairman**

Our Sunday school youth continue to study the New Testament; and, we do specific lessons on topics which are time sensitive, such as Communion, Advent, and Lent. They will also continue to enjoy some special crafts projects. In December, the youth helped make and set up luminary bags to line our front entrance on Christmas Eve.

We have purchased curriculum to be used with ages 2-6, and we plan to implement this program by the end of January. We continue to need **volunteers** if we are going to offer quality programs for our youth. The future of our church is partly dependent upon youth involvement. Please prayerfully consider anything you might be able to contribute to this ministry.

Our classrooms now have new carpet and tile. We are grateful for our new surroundings, and continue to organize and improve the decor. Our play area needs some maintenance, and any help with that will be welcome. We also want to put up a shade cover, and we are researching cost effective options. Tim Perez is the play area contact person if you have any suggestions.

As for the adults, there are currently two ongoing Bible study options being offered weekly. Sundays at 9 AM, and Thursdays at 6 PM. All are welcome!

**Music – Rew Hennessy**

Well, if it wasn't before, winter is certainly on us now, isn't it? WOW, it's cold out there!! I love this new challenge of leading the music, but I need more feedback. Please tell me all of your musical ideas and suggestions and I will do my best to use them. I also hope more of you 'step forward' to join the choir.

I also want to say that in the short time I have been here at DCC, I have really enjoyed getting to know many of you. And I hope to get to know more of you. We are all one in Christ and I think we can love and help each other more. **Galatians 3:38** (NASB) says, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." I wish you all a great new year, beloved, and I hope the music enables you to worship our great God more deeply. Love, Rew



**What's Cooking**  
(from the DCC  
WFM cookbook)

**Bacon Salad**

- 1 lb bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 2 lb frozen peas, Thawed
- ¾ c cheddar cheese, coarsely grated
- ½ small onion, finely chopped
- ¼ c mayonnaise
- ½ tsp ground black pepper
- ½ tsp salt
- ¼ tsp paprika (optional)

**Directions:**

In a large bowl combine all ingredients. Best if served immediately.

*submitted by:*  
April Kuhlmeier

Many of you have asked for the chili recipe that was made for the Christmas Eve Chili supper. It is copyrighted but you can get on the internet and go to [www.thisoldgal.com](http://www.thisoldgal.com) for the recipe.

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**God's grace is immeasurable, His mercy inexhaustible, His peace inexpressible.**

**Men's Fellowship – Ed Hill, Chairman (edhill1124@verizon.net)**

The ending quarter of 2017 has been a relatively “quiet” quarter for the Men’s Fellowship, due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas back to back months. We only had one meeting for November and December, knowing that these would be times when men and their families would be involved in various necessary activities, outside the “normal, monthly “ ones, and as a result, our average attendance was down. With the conclusion of our last Fall Rummage Sale, our attention was directed toward Christmas Activities. The Men’s Fellowship was able to donate monies to help cover the shipping cost of the Christmas Boxes for Children that our Church participated in. We look forward to our January (2018) meeting, when we will elect men to fill the various positions and get back to “normal”, enjoying good food, good fellowship and participating in the activities of our Church, always centered around the teachings of Christ. So, if you haven’t had the opportunity to attend a Men’s Fellowship Breakfast, I encourage you to make a New Year’s resolution and do so in 2018. You will be blessed and you will find spiritual encouragement for your daily Christian walk.

**Women’s Fellowship – Peggy Freshour, Chairman**

Our Bible study on the New Testament will resume on January 11, at 9:45 for 7 weeks. We will begin with Unit 7, which covers the first 12 chapters of the book of Acts. As we move through each unit, we will complete the books of the Bible through Revelation. This is an opportunity for the women to gain a better understanding of the life of Jesus, his disciples and apostles, and the ways they were able to spread the good news throughout the world. Step By Step Through The New Testament is truly an informative and interesting Bible study.

The labels are completed for the kitchen drawers and cabinets. This will help everyone who uses the kitchen to be able to locate items more easily and return them to their proper location! We hope you have noticed the beautiful new tablecloths in the Fellowship Hall, and the new window coverings in the kitchen. Our group has made some much needed improvements this year! Thank you, ladies!! We are selling our DCC cookbooks, and there are only about a few books left! They make great gifts!

At our December meeting we elected and installed new officers for the 2018 calendar year. Congratulations and thank you for volunteering to serve!

President—Barbara Hinderliter; Vice-President—Laurel Hamilton; Secretary—Karen Kluge Mattox; Treasurer—Phyllis Croonenburghs.

We will once again sponsor a Ladies’ Tea, with a maximum of 13 tables available for hostessing. The event will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, February 17th. More information will be available in the weeks to come. This is a great way to reach out to others in the community, and has been well received.

Reminder: Our meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month, and any of the women who attend DCC are welcome. We have a calling committee, and if you are not being called, please call the church office. We would love to have you join our luncheon meetings and share your ideas with us!!

**Nominating Committee – Phyllis Croonenberghs, Chairman**

The slate of officers for 2018 is complete and anyone who is a new member to the committees were elected to service Sunday, January 14, during the Annual Congregational Meeting . They will be installed into service after church on Sunday, January 21. For a complete list of “who’s who”, please see the last page of this newsletter. Those names in bold are the one that will be installed.

**Pictorial Directory**

Pictures are being taken every Sunday. If you are a member of this church or attend regularly, please have your picture taken for it. If you have a picture that you’re rather use, bring it to the church office any weekday morning between the hours of 9 am – Noon. We need 100% participation to make this directory successful.

**Be the Lighthouse that somebody sees in the storm.**

## Hymn Sing Sunday

Every third Sunday at Desert Congregational, we sing your favorite songs. Thumb through the hymnal and let us know the song(s) you really like to sing. Fill out the form that's on the information table in the Narthex and put it in the offering plate any Sunday. That's all you have to do – we'll do the rest.

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Got a suggestion for the Deacons to consider and discuss? There's a suggestion box on the information table in the Narthex  
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## JANUARY

### Birthdays

3 – Logan Patterson; 3 - Melody Ross; 12 – Barbara Hinderliter; 14 - Wayne Mackey; 15 – Nancy Lake; 18 – Kylie Robinson; 19 – Grace Ross; 20 – Sharyn Bishop; 21 – Bob Guerri; 24 – Matthew Perez; 25 – Jeremiah Burch; 28 – Vida Hamilton; 30 – Mary Ann George

### Anniversaries

None

## FEBRUARY

### Birthdays

4 – Sally Hedgecock; 8 – Andrew Batinich; 11 – Bruce Burch; 12 – Peggy King 12 – Luckie Paxton; 20 – Patrick McCollum; 22 – Alex Ford

### Anniversaries

14 – Robert & Luckie Paxton

## MARCH

### Birthdays

3 – Carmen Cabrera; 3 – Betty Van Hofwegen; 5 – Rebecca Patterson; 5 – Lliani Gaines; 8 – Nokie Harz; 8 – Tim Perez; 11 – DeDe Guerri; 11 – Jean Hill; 15 – Daniel Ammerman, Jr.; 15 – Wendy McCollum; 18 – Rylie Ford; 20 – Phylis Croonenberghs; 24 – Kaden June; 26 – Lukas Gaines; 28 – Bertha Robinette

### Anniversaries

22 – Wayne & Phyllis Mackey; 28 – Ed & April Kuhlmeier

### **Meeting Dates to Remember:**

- Youth Group = Sundays @ 6 PM
- Adult Bible Study = Sundays @ 9 AM
- Pioneer Club = Wednesdays @ 6 PM
- Adult Bible Study = Thursdays @ 6 PM
- Choir Practice = Thursdays @ 7 PM
- Deacons = *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month*
- Trustees = *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month*
- Christian Ed = *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month*
- Men's Fellowship = *4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month*
- Women/s Fellowship – *2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month*
- Women's Bible Study = *1/11 – 2/22*

## **Laughter is good for the soul .....**

**The Sunday School teacher** was describing that when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom she turned into a pillar of salt, when Bobby interrupted. "My mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

**Another Sunday School teacher** said to her children, "We have been learning about how powerful the kings and queens were in Biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?" Tommy blurted out, "I know, Aces."

**After explaining the commandment** to honor your father and mother, a Sunday School teacher asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters. One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

# DCC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## Officers for 2018

(Names in bold are the new members of each board)

### Moderator

**Peggy Freshour**

### Vice Moderator

**Sharyn Bishop**

### Clerk

Karen Kluge

### Deacons

Travis Gaines '18

Vida Hamilton '18

Annette Faudel '19

Ed Hill '19

Judith Krieger '19

Wayne Mackey '19

Becky Patterson '19

**Patrick McCollum '20**

**Nancy Gregory '20**

### Christian Education

Laurel Morrow '18

Tim Perez '18

Dian McCullough '19

Nancy Gregory '19 (resigned)

**Tammy Sandoval '19**

(replacing Nancy Gregory)

**Laurel Hamilton '20**

**Sandy Smith '20**

**Peggy Freshour, Advisor**

### Treasurer

Lorrie Carlson

### Trustees

Peggy King '18 (resigned)

**Barbara Hinderliter '18**

(replacing Peggy King)

Robert Wallace '18

Gale Yawn '18

Glenn Freshour /19

Jeanette Carson '19

**Rick Buckles '20**

**Laura Hudson '20**

**Nancy Lake '20**

**April Kulhmeyer '20**

**Floyd Carlson, Advisor**

### Historian

Karen Kluge

### Nominating Committee

**Sharyn Bishop, Vice Moderator**

**Phylis Croonenberghs**

**Jean Hill**

### **More to laugh about .....**

**Lot again...** A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt."

His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"