

# THE CHURCH CRIER

Desert Congregational Church  
5688 Sunrise Road, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277  
[www.desertcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.desertcongregationalchurch.org) 760-361-0086

## A Message From Our Pastor

This Church will leave a legacy of sorts – either a positive one or a negative one. Our lives eventually will come to an end but hopefully the church will live on. The truth will come out – the good things DCC did, the bad things DCC did, what we really stood for.

The Church may live a long, productive life and, like Caleb of the Old Testament, be able to look back after 85 years and say that we finished well.

Caleb, Joshua and the Israelites had come into the Promised Land after 40 years of wilderness wandering. Caleb had been promised a portion of the land, and he asked for what he had been assured of earlier. He said to Joshua:

“Remember what the Lord said to Moses, the man of God, about you and me when we were at Kadesh-barnea. I was forty years old when Moses, the servant of the Lord, sent me from Kadesh-barnea to explore the land of Canaan. I returned and gave an honest report, but my brothers who went with me frightened the people from entering the Promised Land. For my part, I wholeheartedly followed the Lord my God. So that day Moses solemnly promised me, ‘The land of Canaan on which you were just walking will be your grant of land and that of your descendants forever, because you wholeheartedly followed the Lord my God.’” (Joshua 14:6–9 NLT)

Notice an important phrase: “You wholeheartedly followed the Lord my God.” It simply means that Caleb wasn’t a halfhearted person.

I think we have some halfhearted people filling the pews of our church. They want to give the bare minimum to the One who gave everything for them. If you try to live as a Christian but live as you please, you will find conflict. Some people have too much of the Lord to be happy in this world, and too much of this world to be happy in the Lord. They’re living in a miserable no-man’s-land.

I became a Christian at the age of 19. I had been out in the world for 19 years, and I think I had more than my share of it. I was raised in a Catholic home where my mom and dad lived a married but separate life.

For a time I got into drinking and partying. It was my way of coping with the mess I had made of my life. I had been raised in a church that form and ritual was its corner stone. I knew nothing of the things of God. All I knew was tradition.

Even at 19, I was already sick of the way my life was going. I was in search mode, convinced there had to be more than this. I was disillusioned by the adult world I saw. I realized they didn’t have the answers. And I didn’t like the way my generation was going and what we were chasing after. I knew we didn’t have the answers, either.

(continued on page 4)



## Upcoming Events

### October

- 7 – Deacon’s Meeting
- 8 – Women’s Fellowship
- 10 – By-Law Committee Mtg
- 14 – Trustee Meeting
- 17 – Church Council Mtg
- 19 – DCC Game Night
- 21 – Christian Ed Meeting
- 27 - Street Clean-up
- 27 – Men’s Breakfast

### November

- 4 – Deacon’s Meeting
- 11 – Trustee Meeting
- 12 – Women’s Fellowship
- 18 – DCC Thanksgiving Feast
- 22 – Thanksgiving Day
- 24 – Street Clean-up
- 24 – Men’s Breakfast

### December

- 2 – Deacon’s Meeting
- 9 – Trustee Meeting
- 10 – Women’s Fellowship
- 16 – Christian Ed Meeting
- 24 – Christmas Eve
- 25 - Christmas Day

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## *Come Sail with Us*



Catalina Island / Ensenada  
September 9-13, 2019

See Jean Hill for more details

**Board Briefs .....**

**Deacons – Wayne Mackey, Chairman**

God Bless ..... Wayne

**Trustees – Nancy Lake, Chairman**

First, and most importantly, we are looking for a Treasurer. Lorrie Carlson is retiring from the position after having served as Treasurer for many years. If you have any experience, and would like the job, please let Jean Hill or Nancy Lake know. The trustees have been looking in ways to save money. Our income over the last couple months has not been covering our expenses. Hopefully, this will change in the next couple months. Our grounds are looking great - a BIG thank you to Ed and Tammy for their hard work. Many of God's blessings to you all - Nancy

**Christian Ed – Tim Perez, Chairman**

Blessings - Tim

**Music – Rew Hennessy**

Hello my friends and welcome to October! Wait, . . . WHAT !?! It can't be October ALREADY , can it? Well, . . . yes, it can. As I prepare music for the coming months I have a difficult task. Ultimately I want to facilitate the desire of true believers to worship God in powerful music. But many of us have very different ideas of what TYPE of music is best to accomplish that. I am gradually introducing new songs and hymns, and developing strategies for what to do in the coming holidays. The fervency with which people request music is interesting. And somehow I hope we will find that delicate balance of old and new. So let me ask all of you a favor; prepare your hearts. Before you enter the sanctuary, spend some time in the Word. Allow God to speak to you and remind you of how powerful, how amazing, and how merciful He is. Read a Psalm, read some of Daniel, read the section of John that the pastor is about to preach on. Read it, meditate on it, and read it again. Then your heart will be ready. Then you will be ready to worship in whatever song is sung. Then you will be prepared to love, to encourage, to console, and to EDIFY the Body of Christ, His church. One of our BEST testimonies to our new visitors is how willing and how well we worship God in song. Thank you all for your suggestions, and please keep them coming. Rev 4:11..... Rew

**Men's Fellowship - Rick Buckles, Chairman**

All Men from the church are invited to attend the Men's fellowship breakfast the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month for an excellent breakfast and good fellowship. The men are active in the "street cleanup" for the church. It takes place the same morning as the breakfast at 0700 on Mesquite Springs road with breakfast to follow. All are invited to help and it usually takes about ½ hour. The men's camp night in Joshua Tree National park was on September 21 at Indian Cove with 12 men and young men attending. The Pastor and Rew brought guitars and we had a good time singing. The food was good with burgers and Brauts, pizza, cole slaw, carrot cake and brownies. A couple of the men spent the night and enjoyed the near full moon, cool temps and good conversation. The men voted to send some of the funds available out into the world to help spread the gospel, contributing to the youth going to camp, and supporting multiple local charities. We are still meaning to do a food for life before the end of the year, more to come on that. The pastor always has a great message for the men so come and join us to be enriched and blessed and become some of God's Mighty Men. Let's come together for Christ and help carry out our commission to bring the gospel to the world and strengthen our faith and love for one and other. Come and join us and make a difference for Christ.

**Women's Fellowship – Barbara Hinderliter, Chairman**

Women's Fellowship had its first meeting of the new year in September. We discussed the rummage sale and it was voted to have one sale in March vs two rummage sales. It is getting hard for our membership to support two sales. It was also voted to postpone the Women's Tea from February to possibly May as February is too close to rummage sale. It was also presented to the membership that we are looking for

someone to chair the rummage sale and the Tea. As there was no further business to discuss at this time, the meeting was adjourned..... Barbara

**Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee consists of Sharyn Bishop, Phylis Croonenberghs, and Jean Hill and they have already begun to pray for those who will be brought before the church in January for election. The committee will meet on October 30 to begin the process of filling positions on the Deacon Body, the Trustees, and the Christian Ed Committee.

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**October**

**Birthdays**

2 – Don Huffman; 5 – Eric Ross; 3 – Robert Wallace; 14 – Denice Perez & Rick Buckles;  
21 - Glenn Freshour

**Anniversaries**

9 – Ed & Jean Hill  
17 – Allan & Laurel Morrow

**November**

**Birthdays**

4 – Gerard Martinez; 7 – Cindy Ross, Phyllis Mackey, Terry Hinderliter; 10 – Kenny Hill & Toshi Buckley; 15 – Jeanne Bussell; 18 – Lorri Conway; 22 – Jeffrey Johnson; 23 – Tierra Atherley;  
24 – Ed Hill

**Anniversaries**

4 – Nancy & Don Lake; 10 – Tammy & Edward Sandoval; 18 – Patrick and Wendy McCollum

**December**

**Birthdays**

1 – Rob Bergey; 3 - Shirley Chen; 4 – Wayne Turnbaugh; 10 – Leona Ammerman & Pearl Burch; 11 – Dian McCullough; 25 – Michele Burch

**Anniversaries**

13 – Rick & Martha Buckles; 15 – Michele & Christopher Burch; Floyd and Lorrie Carlson

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**Family Game night at DCC**

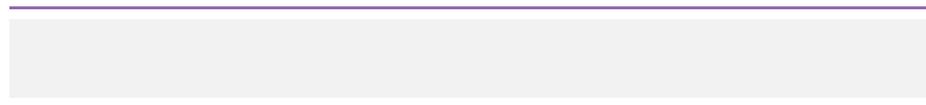
Dominoes, Slingo, Uno – to name a few. Bring a pot luck dish to share with everyone and come to the Fellowship Hall on Friday evening at 6 PM on Friday, October 19. We'll start playing our games around 7 PM. We promise an evening of fun and great fellowship.

**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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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meeting Dates to Remember:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Bible Study = <i>Sunday @ 9 AM</i></li> <li>• Youth Group = <i>Sunday @ 6 PM</i></li> <li>• Pioneer Club = <i>Monday @ 6 PM</i></li> <li>• Adult Bible Study = <i>Thursday @ 6 PM</i></li> <li>• Worship Team = <i>Thursday @ 6 PM</i></li> <li>• Choir Practice = <i>Thursday @ 7 PM</i></li> <li>• Deacons = <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month</i></li> <li>• Trustees = <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month</i></li> <li>• Christian Ed = <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month</i></li> <li>• Men's Fellowship Breakfast = <i>4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month</i></li> <li>• Women's Fellowship / Luncheon = <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month</i></li> </ul>
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**Have you checked out** our Facebook page and our website lately. Did you know that Pastor Allan's message is taped every Sunday and is archived on the website? Just go to the Archives Page to read it.

Facebook Page – Desert Congregational Church  
Website: [www.desertcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.desertcongregationalchurch.org)

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\* Our condolences to Pastor Allan and Laurel Morrow on the death of her mother, Llew Smith. Llew went home to be with the Lord on August 25.

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### **A Message From Our Pastor (continued)**

Then I heard the Gospel. I heard about Jesus Christ, who calls us to follow him. I responded and gave my heart to the Lord. I started going to a Bible study where I met some half-hearted Christians who wanted to play with the world and still be Christians. That made no sense to me. I had been there and done that. I knew how empty and futile it was. I couldn't imagine how anyone could know the forgiveness of God and still want to dabble with this world. I thought, "Why bother?" I'd had enough of it to get my fill.

I hope you don't have to learn this the hard way. You can take God's word for it. He tells you to stay away from certain things for your own good. Or you can say, "What does God know? What does anyone else know? I'll do it my way." And then you can face the consequences of that decision.

Caleb referred to an important place: Kadesh-barnea. This may not mean a lot to us, but it's a key point in Caleb's story. Forty-five years earlier, Caleb, Moses and Joshua, along with the children of Israel, came to the edge of the Promised Land. The point of entry was Kadesh-barnea. They had quickly made the trek from Egypt and were poised to enter the land.

It doesn't take 40 years to get there from Egypt, however. They were going in circles. Why did it take them so long? Here's why: When they arrived at Kadesh-barnea, they decided to send in some spies. They chose 12 men to go in, see what was going on, and then return with their report.

They probably should have just gone into Canaan and believed the Lord. He had promised he would watch out for them and bless them and get them through. But instead they sent in spies. After a time in the land, the spies came back. The majority of 10 effectively said, "You don't want to go into that place. Everything in this land is big. The walls are big. The cities are big. The soldiers are big. We were like grasshoppers in their sight. There are giants in the land."

Caleb and Joshua, however, returned with a minority report. They brought back a cluster of grapes so large that it took the two of them to carry it. The people were angry with Joshua and Caleb for daring to suggest they continue into the land. They actually wanted to kill them.

If you want to finish well and wholeheartedly follow God, then you won't compromise but instead stand your ground. You will be more concerned with the approval of God than the approval of people.

It would have been so easy for Caleb and Joshua to go along with the crowd. Everyone was saying it, but they knew it was wrong. They stood their ground at the risk of being personally ostracized and losing their friends – and even their lives.

Think of how many people today are held back spiritually because they are so concerned with the opinions of others.

Don't lead a half-hearted life. Make sure that every day counts. You don't want to waste a single moment.

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**Got some favorite verses in the Book of Psalms. Let Jean know what they are and you may find your favorites on the screen some Sunday morning.**

***Make prayer a first priority , instead of a last resort.***