



The Church Crier

April - June 2016

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We were pleased to welcome two new members into our fold in February: Travis & Lliani Gaines as well as their wonderful children, Lukas, Lyndon & Leah. What a joy to have these new members who have professed their belief in Jesus Christ and their desire to be a true part of the Desert Congregational Church family. Welcome!!!



Ryan & Dimytria Brooke welcomed their precious daughter, Odessa Terra Brooke, on Saturday, 27 Feb 2016. She weighed 6 lbs 12 oz and was 19" long. She's a beauty and we're so glad that she's here and part of our DCC family too.

DCC LIBRARIAN (PEGGY KING):

Your Library is open to all and contains many Bibles in many versions, books on church history and some nice Christian novels. And, if you have any Christian novels, extra Bibles or any good research books that you no longer want, they will find a good home in the DCC Library.



TRUSTEES BRIEF:

The church has hired Wanda Morgan of Better Business Services to take care of our payroll and tax needs for our hired employees. The church locks have been changed and keys have been issued to eight people, listed in the January 2016 Trustees minutes. The Trustees are currently researching ways to prevent erosion of Sanctuary grounds around N, NE and SE sides. A new printer has been purchased and installed in the church office. We are working on a new handicap parking template.

FLOYD CARLSON, CHAIRPERSON

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:

The monthly Men's Fellowship breakfast continues to be well attended and enjoyed by all. The men helped support the Gospel Fest with a donation of \$600. Several men helped with cooking and love offering responsibilities during the actual event. The men discussed making the kitchen entrance door into a Dutch door. Louie Kisner took on this task and completed it. The door looks awesome! Thanks Louie! In addition the men agreed to help with the purchase of a new dishwasher, to purchase new flags and stands to be here before Memorial Day Sunday, and are checking on prices and styles of gas grills in the event we decide to replace our existing one which is damaged but still serviceable in most respects.

JIM LAMON, PRESIDENT

DEACON UPDATE:

Thanks to all for their help in helping me learn my Deacon Chair responsibilities. You are appreciated. The Gospel Fest was a great success and we are grateful to the Pilgrim's for all the time they put into that day! The Gospel Fest wouldn't have been the success it was either without all the help they received from fellow DCC members by cooking, ushering, etc. – thanks to everyone who helped in so many ways! Our youth will be hosting a dinner for our congregation singles as a fundraiser for their upcoming Junior High Summer camp. We are beginning to work on estimates to begin the construction of new church offices to create space for our infant nursery. Also looking into the future, we will be transitioning to wireless microphones

a little at a time. We continue to look for a Music Director to work with our choir so if you know of anyone interested, please direct them to Pastor Allan. Thank you to Jim Lamon for his participation in Walk for Life and to those who donated. We understand some people prefer the darker grape juice or darker wine for an easier distinction. However, in the interest of preserving our carpets we will continue with the lighter color and remind each other that wine is always in the center of the communion tray. Soon we will be participating in the SCRIP program as a fundraiser for our church. This is a wonderful program where you, our supporters, are not spending anything extra. Basically, the church purchases vouchers at a discounted rate. You purchase them at face value from us and the church has earned a percentage on every dollar you spend. More details to come on the program soon!

DENICE PEREZ, CHAIRMAN

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:

Women's Fellowship has been busy since the beginning of the New Year! Our (First Annual?) Friendship Tea on February 20th was a huge success and everyone attending had such a lovely time. Many heartfelt thanks go to Jean Hill, Laurel Morrow and Vida Hamilton for all their planning and hard work! The food served was beautiful and delicious! I think our guests from the community really enjoyed the event. We also want to thank our members who claimed and beautifully decorated the tables and the brave men from our congregation who came and gallantly served and refilled the ladies' tea! You were certainly impressive and greatly appreciated. We had an internal audit in February and everything in our treasury was spot-on. Our Bible Study, "Seamless", has been a wonderful study – we are learning so much about the Bible and how it is one continuous story of God's love! We conclude on April 21st and look forward to another study in the fall. We are so excited to be publishing a cookbook and want to encourage EVERYONE in our congregation (men AND women) to submit recipes. This is a fundraising project and there is a collection box in the Narthex – also forms for filling out your recipes. Call me or Ginny Whaley with questions. DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR RECIPES IS JUNE 1ST. Our semi-annual Rummage Sale is coming up the first weekend in May, Friday May 6th & Saturday May 7th. We will begin setup on Monday May 2nd and we need all the help we can get. Bring your donations to church at any time to be stored in our big shed. Please give Chris or Floyd a call to let them know you are coming. Some of our contributions so far this year include Walk for Life, Food for Life Ministry and the new plants on the west wall of the Fellowship Hall. We also gave a nice gift to our future member, Odessa Brooke (new parents Ryan and Dimytria). We voted to give a \$200 donation to the Way Station after each Rummage Sale in addition to the clothing we

give them. Phylis Croonenberghs has taken the donated glasses from the congregation to Dr. Sheldon for mission projects. Our meetings have been productive and well attended. Thanks to Philly's Mackey for Hostessing in January, Peggy K and Tammy in February and Peggy F, Laurel and Llew in March. We enjoyed themed decorations and inspiring devotions. We now have 4 "callers" to remind you of the meetings and to disseminate any information that comes along. If you haven't been contacted please let me know. Our Hostesses for April 11th will be Ginny Whaley and Toshi Buckley, May 16th (note it is the 3rd Monday) hostesses will be Vida Hamilton and Karen. We are still looking for hostesses for June and September. I can always be reached at 760-831-4524.

PEGGY KING, PRESIDENT

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

In Sunday school, we continue to encourage the youth to memorize some verses from the Bible. The children had a chance to make a Resurrection Garden to celebrate Easter, and to reinforce the meaning of Holy Communion by reviewing the story of the Last Supper. We have introduced some new lessons for our Preschool class, too. Our board has been discussing the possibility of sending our junior high youth to a Christian summer camp. Fundraisers are being planned, and other options to help families with the cost are being discussed. It would be wonderful to give our youth this opportunity to grow in their faith. As we get more details, we will keep the congregation informed. Thank you to Pastor Allan and the Pioneer Club for their performance of "Amazing Grace" on Easter Sunday. Our older youth did a wonderful job performing "God's Not Dead" on various instruments and vocals along with Pastor Allan on Easter Sunday. It is always great to have our youth be a part of the worship service. Both youth groups are meeting regularly and enjoying a variety of activities and learning opportunities. Remember, Pioneer Club meets Wednesday evenings, and the Junior/Senior High group meets on Sunday evenings. Most of our focus now is on the upcoming Vacation Bible School, which is now set for the week of June 13-17 from 6-8 PM. Youth K-6 are encouraged to attend, and we hope to get lots of help from our older youth, as well as any adult who is willing to assist in some way. Just fill out a volunteer form, and we will be grateful for any help you might be able to offer. Our theme for this year is Son Surf Beach Bash! As we have done in the past, our mission focus will be Operation Christmas Child, and information will go out to all families who have children attending VBS.

PEGGY FRESHOUR

PASTOR'S CORNER:

The Bible tells us that Jesus of Nazareth rose from the dead on the Sunday after Passover. The risen Jesus met with and spoke with people for 40 days following that, including up to 500 people at a time (1 Corinthians 15:6). At the 40 day mark, He ascended to heaven, as His disciples watched. Ten days after that, on the day of the Jewish festival of Pentecost, one of His disciples preached about the risen Jesus to thousands of people. In that sermon, Peter spoke of Jesus as the one, "...Whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it" (Acts 2:24). Many years ago, that phrase caught my attention, and I am still amazed by it: It was not possible for Jesus to remain dead in the tomb. He had to rise. In the season of Easter and Resurrection, it's good for us to think deeply about how Jesus had to live, had to die, and had to rise again. Here are a few thoughts on why Jesus had to rise from the dead. It's a short and incomplete list - feel free to add your own thoughts in the comments.

JESUS HAD TO RISE FROM THE DEAD TO FULFILL THE PROMISES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.

JESUS HAD TO RISE FROM THE DEAD TO PROVE THAT THE PRICE WAS PAID

JESUS HAD TO RISE FROM THE DEAD TO MAKE CERTAIN OF OUR SALVATION

JESUS HAD TO RISE FROM THE DEAD TO SHOW THAT DEATH WAS DEFEATED.

JESUS HAD TO RISE FROM THE DEAD TO BRING HOPE AND SECURITY TO HIS FOLLOWERS.

JESUS HAD TO RISE FROM THE DEAD TO DEMONSTRATE THE GREATNESS OF GOD'S POWER.

Having just celebrated Easter and resurrection, think deeply on why Jesus had to rise, and especially all that His resurrection brings to those who repent and put their faith in Jesus. It's something to not only know, but to live. Blessings,

PASTOR ALLAN

EVANGELISM TEAM: Praying with others is what God loves. "Where two or three are gathered together there I am in the midst." In the Old Testament we get a lot of encouragement about prayer. Isaiah 56:7, Jesus quoted when turning over the tables of the money changer, "... for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." Jesus didn't only go to an isolated place to pray by Himself but also prayed often with and for others. The Lord's Prayer was given as a model prayer for us. The prayer is given in plural, so as to teach that we ought to pray together. At the end of His earthly life, He had only hours of freedom left. He went to pray by Himself and then asked the others to come pray with Him. Matthew 26:41, He says "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. ..." Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness in front of man but sincerely make your request known to God. The simplest definition of prayer is depending on God in everything. To not pray is saying I can live my Christian life on my own. We miss so much in special relationships when living life on our own. John 15:5, says apart from Jesus we can do nothing of value to Him.



BIRTHDAYS

April-02-Ava Neste; 04-Bob Robinette; 09-Charlene Luongo; 12-Gene Mattox; 15-Nicholas Perez; 23-April Kuhlmeier, Gene Lafond, & John Lohr; 24-Marie Lafond & Jessi David; 29-Kayla Speer

May-02-Terry Mayes; 03-Pastor Allan Morrow; 04-Darlene Subriar; 05-Isabella David; 11-Ben Pressnall; 15-John Gonzalez; 21-Ellen Chambers; 24-Daniel Kitchens; 26-Davyn June; 30-Pastor Bob Whaley

June-04-Andrew Christianson; 06-Lea Speer; 07-Karen Kluge; 08-Mike Harz; 09-Chris Pilgrim; 10-Annette Faudel & Ginny Whaley; 15-Barbara Walker; 18-Ed Kuhlmeier; 23-Laura Hudson & Robert Paxton; 26-Tony Renner; 28-Don Lake



ANNIVERSARIES

April-17-Tim & Denice Perez; 22-Travis & Lliani Gaines

May-11-Louie & Barbara Kisner & Ryan & Dimytria Brooke

June-12-Craig & Barbara Walker; 16-Blaine & Peggy King; 23-Terry & Marsha Mayes; 29-Tony & Sun Re Renner

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 03 Apr - Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 09 Apr – Adopt-a-Street Cleanup @8:00 am
- 09 Apr - Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 01 May – Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 06-07 May – Rummage Sale – 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
- 14 May – Adopt-a-Street Cleanup @7:00 am
- 14 May - Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 05 Jun - Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 11 Jun – Adopt-a-Street Cleanup @7:00 am
- 11 Jun – Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 13-17 Jun – VBS – 6:00 – 8:00 pm

WEEKLY MEETING DAYS/TIMES TO REMEMBER:

- Adult Bible Study – Sundays @ 9:00 am
- Youth Group, Grades 7-12 - Sundays @ 6:00 pm
- Pioneer Club – Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm
- Prayer Team – Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm
- Adult Bible Study – Thursdays @ 6:00 pm
- DCC Musicians & Singers Practice - Thursday @ 6:00 pm-
except week of Sat Nite Church when they practice @7:00 pm
on Friday
- Deacons – First Sunday of Each Month @11:15 am
- Trustees – Second Sunday of Each Month @11:15 am
- Christian Ed- Dates to be determined
- Men’s Fellowship-Last Sat of Month @8:00 am
- Women's Fellowship/Shared Luncheon-2nd Mon of the month
@10:30 am (May meeting will be the 3rd Mon due to
Rummage Sale)