



The Church Crier

July - September 2016

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We were pleased to welcome three new members into our fold in April & May: Andrew Christianson, Kathy Overstreet & Blaine King. 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!!!

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. If you have any Christian novels, extra Bibles or any good reference books that you no longer want or need, they will find a good home in the DCC Library.

WANTED – DRIVERS FOR CHURCH VAN

Please see Floyd Carlson if you are interested in becoming one of the authorized van drivers for the church. Members of the congregation occasionally need rides to and from church and to attend special functions. If you meet the qualifications, your time and talent as a driver would be most appreciated!



TRUSTEES BRIEF:

The Trustees have ordered and received six headsets for the hearing-impaired. One of the sets has been used for two Sunday services and positive feedback has been received on its use. We have received three applications for the grounds keeper position. Work on the grounds should start the first week of July. Jeffrey Johnson contacted a commercial appliance service in Cathedral City. The commercial dishwasher in the church's kitchen was serviced and is now operational. We are waiting for contractor bids for a wall that will fix outside erosion problems on the east front and north/south sides of the sanctuary. The trustees feel that we need to buy more chairs for the sanctuary. We want to start an "Adopt-A-Chair Project". We need forty (40) arm chairs at \$75.00 each and twenty-two (22) armless chairs at \$62 each. You can donate for the full cost of a chair or just make a small donation for chairs. We have already received money for four chairs.

FLOYD CARLSON, CHAIRMAN

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:

The Men's Fellowship continues to provide bountiful breakfasts once a month with great attendance. The men were a great help with the spring rummage sale. The Women's Fellowship provided the men with a portion of the profits from the sale. Prior to making a determination as to whether or not the dishwasher should be replaced (the replacement cost would be shared between the Men's Fellowship, the Women's Fellowship and the church), Jeff Johnson arranged to have the dishwasher checked out by an experienced commercial dishwasher repairman. The repairman was able to repair it and for now it is unnecessary to replace it – thanks Jeff! The Men's Fellowship has sponsored a boy to attend summer camp. The Men's Fellowship wants to get more men to get their food handler certificates which can be done on-line for \$22.00. See flyer in the Narthex.

JIM LAMON, PRESIDENT

DEACON UPDATE:

Many thanks to all who supported our youth by attending the Mexican fiesta dinner and movie night. We are actively working on getting SCRIP ready to sell. SCRIP is a wonderful fundraising opportunity for the church. SCRIP are vouchers that are purchased at a discounted rate by the church. The vouchers are then sold at face value with the difference in price the fundraising profit. We look forward to your support in our endeavor. We are working on name tags for our congregation to help everyone get to know each other's names better.

DENICE PEREZ, CHAIRMAN

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:

As usual Women's Fellowship had a busy spring. First and foremost, we once again worked hard and had a very successful Spring Rummage Sale. There were 25 volunteers and we are thankful for all the help we had. "Many hands make light work". We thanked the Men's Fellowship for all their help and we were happy to share a portion of our proceeds with them. The leftover items were all donated to charity, minus several more desirable, valuable items that were saved for the Fall Sale. Mark your calendars: next sale will be Friday September 30th and Saturday October 1st. Set up will begin after church on Sunday September 25th. We are excited to be publishing a cookbook (probably next spring) and want to encourage EVERYONE in our congregation (both 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. Now that the dishwasher is up and running, we plan to spend a couple of intense work days to give the kitchen a thorough cleaning. This spring we supported Jim Lamon and Ginny Whaley when they participated in the "Walk for Life". We also purchased tissue seat cover holders for all the bathrooms and a startup supply of the seat covers. **THANKS TO ED HILL FOR INSTALLING THEM!!!** We were pleased to recognize Justin Perez on his high school graduation with a congratulation check. We had a wonderful spring Bible Study, titled "Seamless, Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story". There will be a new Bible Study in the fall, we will have the dates and subject announced on Sunday mornings as soon as plans are in place. Our meetings have been productive and well attended. At our April meeting we enjoyed a presentation by Steve Cook all about The Way Station. This is a wonderful program in the Morongo Basin and one of the places we contribute lots of clothes to after our Rummage Sales. We also make a monetary contribution to them at that time. Thanks to our quarterly hostesses: (April) Ginny and Toshi, and (May) Vida and Karen. We held our June meeting at Las Palmas restaurant (this took us out of the way during setup for VBS!). We treated ourselves to lunch which was served as a thank you to our members for all their willingness to work. We will be taking a summer respite so our next regular meeting will be Monday, September 12th, at 10:30 am. I can always be reached at 760-831-4524. Submitted with a thankful heart for God's blessings,

PEGGY KING, PRESIDENT

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

We had a very successful Vacation Bible School week, although quite exhausting for several of us! We had 31 children registered, with an average attendance of 26 per day actual attendance. Our theme was Sonsurf Beach Bash, and the youth had a great time with crafts, games, and music to supplement the Bible stories and memory verses. We appreciate all of the older youth, and the adults who helped in ANY way prior to, or during the week. If you attended church on June 19th, you were able to enjoy the songs and some memory verses from the 13 children who participated in the worship service that day. We trust that all of them learned a lot, and enjoyed their week!

We have 8 middle school youth attending the Forest Home summer camp in August. Families will be paying their deposits for each camper by August 3rd, and fund raising is continuing. We plan to supplement between 75 % and 80 % of their costs. Thank you to all of you for your help. And we appreciate having our older youth helping out in various ways around the church!

We are in "summer mode" for Sunday school and youth groups. Special activities will be scheduled, and curriculum will vary, to include some crafts. We will resume our regular programs during the week of September 5-11.

Currently, no new Bible studies have been scheduled for adults. Have a great summer, and God bless you.

PEGGY FRESHOUR, CHAIRMAN

PASTOR'S CORNER:

A question believers never should ask is, "Can I do this and still be a Christian?" That is a dangerous thing to be asking. Instead, what believers should be asking is, "As a Christian, what can I do to be closer to God?" Paul said, "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any" (1 Corinthians 6:12NKJV). It is not so much a matter of whether we can technically do something as Christians and still be saved. Rather, these are the questions we should be asking ourselves: "If I do this thing, is it possible that it could bring me under its power?"; "If I do this thing, is it possible that I could be a bad witness to others?"; "If I do this thing, can I still give glory to God?"

If you have a working conscience and understanding of the Scriptures, then you will know whether a Christian ought to be doing something. You will know there are certain things that you should not do. Then there are times when one believer will have a conviction that another believer doesn't necessarily have. The Bible says in Romans 14:23, "If you do anything you believe is not right, you are sinning." Or, as *The Living Bible* puts it, "Anyone who believes that something he wants to do is wrong shouldn't do it. He sins if he does, for he thinks it is wrong, and so for him it is wrong. Anything that is done apart from what he feels is right is sin."

There always will be the temptation to lower our standards in order to extend our reach. But if you compromise now, you will regret it later.

PASTOR ALLAN

EVANGELISM TEAM: "The Lost Art of Praying Together".

It takes time to learn to pray together. We begin with best intentions and then our adversary starts throwing stumbling blocks at us because he trembles when he sees the weakest believer on his knees in prayer. Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." We pray together in faith believing. We can and must rekindle the passion for praying together. We will help our neighbors to respond to God as we pray God's will for them. We can watch expectantly for God to move in response to our prayers. Colossians 4:2-4 says in part, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful...." God will make a way to get the message out. As we bring praise to God, His power in us can do far more than we can dare to ask for or even imagine. Ephesians 3:20&21



BIRTHDAYS

July-01-Floyd Carlson; 03-Lorrie Carlson; 06-Jim Lamon; 13-Marie Lewis & Laureen Lentz; 15-Laurel Morrow, Jeanette Rogerson Carson, & Patti Wood; 22-Justin Perez; 23-Diana Logue; 26-Sun Cha Huffman; 27-Sun Re Huffman-Renner; 28-Llew Smith; 29-Vivian Dawson; 31-Gale Yawn

August-04-Nancy Gregory; 08-Christopher Perez; 10-Louie Kisner; 12-Walter Coulter & Blaine King; 13-Barbara Kisner & Art VanHofwegen; 15-Lori Bergey; 19-Sandy Smith

September-02-Lyndon Gaines; 03-Lowella Parker, Peggy Freshour, & Kathleen Kiper; 08-Dimytria Brooke; 12-Anna Kirkpatrick; 13-Jonah Robinson; 14-Lillian Hull; 15-Leah Gaines; 16-Allen Lentz; 18-Mackinzie Parker & Bettye Yockey; 24-Tammy Sandoval; 30-Ed Boulware & Dorothy Minor



ANNIVERSARIES

July-10-Gene & Marie Lafond; 26-Terry & Barbara Hinderliter; 28-Don & Sun Cha Huffman; 29-Glenn & Peggy Freshour

August-12-Bob & Bertha Robinette; 14-Bob & Dede Guerri; 19-Gene & Karen Mattox

September-15-Art & Betty VanHofwegen; 20-John & Bonnie Gonzalez; 22-Stephen & Patti Wood

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 03 Jul - Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 09 Jul - Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 07 Aug - Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 13 Aug - Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 14 Aug - Special Music During Worship Service - Danny Agajanian
- 04 Sep - Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 10 Sep - Adopt-a-Street Cleanup @7:00 am
- 10 Sep - Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 30 Sep & 01 Oct - Fall Rummage Sale

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 (No Meeting July or August)