



# The Church Crier

September-October 2015

## **WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

We were pleased to welcome five new members into our fold on June 21, 2015: Patrick McCollum, Wendy McCollum, Alex Ford, Rylie Ford & Caden Eckes. Dian McCullough & Davyn June became our newest members on August 02, 2015. 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!!!



## **WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS**

Congratulations to Gene Mattox & Karen Kluge who were united in marriage by Pastor Allan on 19 Aug 2015!!! Rick Buckles & Martha Rios are now engaged – congratulations to them as well!!!

## **DCC LIBRARIAN (PEGGY KING):**

Our Library is open to all, so if you love to read or need to do some Biblical research, you can peruse our library! If you haven't been there for a while, give it a look. 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 entrance to the sanctuary is nearly completed, just a couple of touch-ups here and there. We have extra handicapped parking which will be painted and have lines soon. The patio to the northeast side of the Fellowship Hall will be painted to match the walkway going into the sanctuary. The disaster relief program is in place. The TV for the cry room has been purchased. Once it is mounted we'll be able to stream the service.

**NANCY LAKE, CHAIRPERSON**

### **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:**

The men have been holding their monthly Men's Fellowship breakfast with great attendance. The men recently voted and approved inviting our junior high and high school boys to attend the breakfasts too. The Men's Fellowship donated \$2,000 to Christian Ed for playground construction. They are currently having discussions regarding funding to send a child to camp.

**JIM LAMON, PRESIDENT**

### **DEACON UPDATE:**

The Deacons have been fairly busy with activities such as hosting a cook out on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, coordinating the "Celebrate America" service on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, cooking & serving a Food for Life Meal at Little Church of the Desert on 18 July. On 09 August we had the privilege of providing a special music ministry guest, Danny Agajanian, whose performance delighted all in attendance. The prayer calling tree has been revised, and the prayer team is now responsible for calling the members of the congregation when prayer needs arise. The Deacons will be providing the congregation a survey to complete sometime in October. The

intent of the survey is to find out what talents our members have and are willing to share with their fellow church members. Thanks to all the Deacons and others who continue to support DCC in so many ways. **CHRIS PILGRIM, CHAIRMAN**

### **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:**

We have enjoyed our summer respite and we welcome fall, hopefully full of energy for our fall activities. All women of the church are welcome and invited to join us! Our sponsored **Bible Study**, led by Jean Hill, begins on Thursday, September 10th, at 9:45 am. The Beth Moore study is titled "To Live is Christ: Joining Paul's Journey of Faith". Women do not have to be members of Women's Fellowship or members of DCC. So if you are looking to feed your faith or strengthen your Bible knowledge or whatever you crave, you may find it here. Please feel free to invite your friends to join us – we welcome all women. For more details, contact Jean Hill at 281-788-5002 or Peggy King at 760-367-4310. Our **September meeting and luncheon will be Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**, hosted by Tammy Sandoval and Peggy King. This is our only meeting before our **SEMI-ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE ON OCT 2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup>**. Please put this on your calendar! Many thanks to Phylis Croonenberghs for skillfully chairing the sale. All hands are needed to make this another successful fundraiser. Our **October meeting and luncheon will be on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**, hosted by Jean Hill and Laurel Morrow. We have some future projects and events in the planning stages – more info on that in the next Church Crier! **PEGGY KING, PRESIDENT**

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**

Our main focus through the summer was to sponsor the Vacation Bible School in June, and to continue working on the completion of a play area for our youth. VBS was very successful, thanks to all of the volunteers who helped throughout the week. We thank everyone for their hard work and dedication. We have already begun work on selecting a new program for next summer, and we hope to continue the trend of a growing number of youth attending and assisting with the VBS. The play area is well on its

way to completion. We are hoping to finish this phase of the project before the end of September. The youth are excited to see what has been done, and they are very anxious to begin utilizing the space, and the new equipment. Thanks so much to both of the Fellowship groups, and to the many members who have contributed financially to enable us to expand our youth ministries. God is good, and we are grateful! Anyone who has questions or suggestions is welcome to bring them to the attention of our board members. Finally, our Sunday school program entitled "What's InThe Bible?" will resume on September 6<sup>th</sup>. We are starting Volume 5, which begins with the book of First & Second Samuel. We are also encouraging the youth to memorize selected Bible verses each week. They can earn quarters for each one they can recite. They deposit this money in their individual crayon banks (located in the classroom), and it can be used for any youth activity outing of their choice. We want to encourage families to help them with their memory verses. It is a great way for everyone to become more familiar with the word of God. **PEGGY FRESHOUR, CHAIRPERSON**

### **PASTOR'S CORNER:**

*Study to show thyself approved unto God...* 2 Timothy 2:15

Recently I was reading through some back to school tips. It struck me that we as Christians could take some of those tips and get ourselves geared up to serving the Lord. We need to get back to the school of life for Christ. First, **Get a Healthy Breakfast. (Have Prayer and Bible Study)** The experts all agree that giving a child breakfast before school helps in knowledge retention, test scores, and overall learning. As Christians we need to get a healthy breakfast of Bible study and prayer. Having some type of personal devotions will fuel you for the day. *My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD, in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.* Psalm 5:3. **Follow The Rules. (Use the Bible as Your Guide)** School couldn't be productive if it weren't for the rules. We can all remember some of the basics. *No fighting. No talking during class. No chewing gum.* As Christians we have the best rule book of all. It covers all of the basics. We need to use it as a

guide on a daily basis. All of those do's and don'ts in God's Word are there to help us live productive lives. *But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. Luke 11:* **Get Along With Your Classmates. (Fellowship With Other Christians)** When children are taught to get along together at school it causes such a good atmosphere for learning. When we as Christians get along with each other and fellowship with one another, it causes more productive lives, which helps further the cause of Christ. *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ God's Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:7* **Get To Know Your Teacher. (Know Christ more)** One of the first things a student needs to learn is what is expected of him from his teacher. How does that teacher deal with homework? With classroom policies? With grades? We need to know what Christ expects of us. Getting to know God will help us serve Him better. *And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off forever. 1 Chronicles 28:9*

I hope I can remember to follow these tips. I want to be a prepared and productive student of the Lord. **PASTOR ALLAN**

## **"THE TRAIN OF LIFE"**

At birth we boarded the "train of life". We met our parents, and once believed that they would always travel on by our side. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us to continue our journey alone. Other travelers will board our train, and they too will be significant; siblings, friends, the love of our life, children. During our trip many of these will step down from the train at their destinations leaving a permanent vacuum in our lives, while the departure of other passengers will go unnoticed, and we won't even realize they have vacated their seats. The train ride will be accompanied by joys, sorrows, fantasy, discoveries, expectations, hellos, and farewells. A successful journey requires that we give the best of ourselves while having as good a relationship as possible with our fellow travelers.

The great mystery to all passengers alike is this: The ticket never tells us the station where we will depart the train. Thus, we must travel through life as best we can; love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are to our fellow travelers. It is important we do this because, when the time comes to leave our seat and step down from the train, we should leave beautiful memories of us for the passengers who will be continuing their journey on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful and rewarding train journey. Reap success and give lots of love and, more importantly, thank God for the trip. **Lastly, I thank you for being one of the passengers on the train.** AUTHOR UNKNOWN



## **BIRTHDAYS**

**September-** 03-Lowella Parker, Peggy Freshour, Kathleen Kiper; 12-Anna Kirkpatrick; 13-Jonah Robinson; 14-Lillian Hull; 16-Allen Lentz; 18-Mackinzie Parker, Bettye Yockey; 24-Tammy Sandoval; 25-Dominic Dolman; 30-Ed Boulware, Dorothy Minor.

**October-**02-Don Huffman; 04-Chris Burch; 06-O.J. Shealy; 13-Robert Wallace, Caden Eckes; 14-Rick Buckles, Denice Perez; 20-Helen McElwee; 21-Glenn Freshour; 25-Julaine Barber.



## **ANNIVERSARIES**

**September-**15-Art & Betty Van Hofwegen; 22-Stephen & Patricia Wood.

**October-**09-Ed & Jean Hill; 17-Pastor Allan & Laurel Morrow; 31-Mike & Nokie Harz.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

- 06 Sep - Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 12 Sep – Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 19 Sep - Adopt-a-Street Cleanup @7:00 am
- 02 & 03 Oct – SEMI-ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE -8:00 am – 3:00 pm
- 04 Oct – Food Donation, Holy Communion, Reception of New Members
- 10 Oct – Saturday Nite Church @7:00 pm
- 17 Oct – Adopt-a-Street Cleanup @7:00 am

## **MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- Adult Bible Study – Sundays @ 9:00 am
- Older Youth Meet - Sundays @ 6:00 pm
- Prayer Team – Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm
- Youth Group/Pioneer Club – Wednesdays @7:00 pm
- Adult Bible Study – Thursdays @ 6:00 pm
- Deacons – First Sunday of Each Month @11:15 am
- Trustees – Dates to be determined
- 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

“Morongo Basin MOPS starts Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>! If you are pregnant or a mother of children in kindergarten or younger, you know how challenging this parenting journey can be! Morongo Basin MOPS wants to come along side you and offer encouragement, friendship, relevant teaching, and plenty of laughter! While moms enjoy the meeting, children will be cared for in our MOPPETS program, by experienced, SAFE teachers. Please consider joining us next Thursday morning, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9:00 am-11:00 am at Little Church Of The Desert. For additional information, call Naomi Thomas at 760-819-1998, or find “Morongo Basin MOPS” on Facebook! You can also read more about MOPS International at [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org).