

[the loop]

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO CONNECTION AT PDCPC

DECEMBER 2018

WORSHIP

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Monday, December 24

5:00pm Family Candlelight Service

7:30pm Classic Candlelight Service

11:00pm Communion Candlelight Service

// For more information on events related to music & worship, visit page 5.

GROW

Our hope is that every member of the PDCPC congregation is a part of one of our mid-week “growth” opportunities. We have Bible studies for men & women; large & small groups; mixed groups, home groups, Sunday school classes... there is truly something for everyone!

// For more information on steps you can take to grow in your relationship with God and with others visit page 6.

SERVE

‘Tis the season of service! Help us make the Christmas season special for people all over the world with one of our many service opportunities.

// For more information on how you can serve others here, and around the world visit page 12.

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN *GENERATIONS OF GENEROSITY*

At Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church, 2018 has been a year of dynamic change with a clear focus on our Vision Frame. The ramping up of a strong, determined and dedicated staff and leadership that have hearts abounding in joy and expectation is abundantly evident as we become a more “flourishing” congregation. And nothing will measure that more than having the resources to meet our vision focus.

Christian Generosity is more about the heart than the head. Our Stewardship theme for this year of 2018 has been “Treasures In Heaven” and our theme for our 2019 Campaign is “Generations of Generosity.”

As we finalize 2018 we need a sprint to the finish. In each year’s budget November and December assume approximately 35% of our annual giving will occur.

And this year we pray that assumption will be exceeded. As we enter December we have an income shortfall of about 25% of our 2018 budget. Every year, this month of “tidings and joy” inspires many to give above and beyond what they have pledged and many others to make certain they have met their pledge for the year. In order to attain a balanced budget for 2018, we urge you to store up your “treasures in heaven” by giving as generously as you can during December so that we will meet or exceed our budgeted income goal.

Due to your generosity over the past four years we have met our \$1,200,000 commitment to the Moving Forward Campaign.

stewardship

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

GENERATIONS OF GENEROSITY - Continued

For 2019 our focus is toward pledging and giving generously to our Operating Budget. Your 2019 pledge assures we have the fiscal resources to sufficiently support our staff, mission partners and the various ministries and programs of our church and of course the overall operating expenses for our campus.

What a blessing if each of us could commit to 10 - 15% above our giving last year.

God has enriched us with so many blessings and our response should be that we "give of our best" to serve His church, His people and His world. To become rich in our deeds and our giving. Pray that it be so!

If you have any questions or wish more information, contact one of our Pastors, Elders or Trustees.

Your Stewardship Ministry Team

worship & music

CHRISTMAS, TOGETHER

The Season of Advent

December 2 | December 9 | December 16 | December 23

Join us every Sunday morning at 9:00am & 10:30am as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Christmas Concert, “The Sound of Christmas”

December 16th at 4pm

Timeless classics, contemporary favorites, and inspiring instrumentation blend together for a festive night that will set the tone for your Christmas Celebration.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, December 24th

5:00pm Family Candlelight Service

7:30pm Classic Candlelight Service

11:00pm Communion Candlelight Service

WORSHIP NOTES

Please note Sunday December 9th is Communion Sunday.

We will have both our 9:00am & 10:30am worship services on Sunday December 23.

CHOIR

Please contact Bruce Carroll, our new Director of Music Ministries, for more information regarding how you can be part of the choir. We'd love to hear from you!

BruceC@pdpresby.org or 760.346.8195 x561.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Would you like to honor a loved one, to celebrate the season of Advent, an occasion or just because with Altar Flowers on an upcoming Sunday?

Contact Sara at 760.346.8195 or x511 or email

sarab@pdpresby.org to secure your date on the calendar.

MEET THE PASTOR

If you are new to PDCPC and would like to know more about our vision and direction, come and meet the Pastor at the home of Pastor Dave and Jess Ludwig for brunch, Sunday, December 2nd at noon. Please stop by the welcome table for more info, or email kathya@pdpresby.org

PastorChat

December 9, following the 10:30 worship service
Taylor Fine Arts Center.

Your chance to ask questions, share your feedback, or just share a cup of coffee with your pastors.

Coffee & Donuts provided!

NEW MEMBER (COVENANT PARTNER) SERIES SAVE THE DATE!

Take your relationship with PDCPC to the next level: Become a COVENANT PARTNER! Classes are designed to familiarize participants with the mission, vision, and values of our church, as well as to equip members to discover how they can connect to that mission.

Our next New Membership series starts on Sunday, January 20th from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm, followed by class on Sunday, January 27th from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. Brunch will be included and childcare is available by request. Please RSVP to the church office or Kathy Aposhian, Director of Connections, at kathya@pdpresby.org or 760.346.8195 x 530.

church *on* wednesday

Dinner: 5:30pm. Class begins at 6:00pm.

Please join on weeks you are able, all ages welcome*.

“The Bible Jesus Read – Getting to Know the Old Testament.”

- December 5 – Israel’s Kingdom and Kings – Success and Devastation
- December 12 – Israel’s Exile and Reconstruction – Ezra/Nehemiah

*Children’s program for 2 year olds to 5th graders will be led by Gerry Neighbors on December 5, 12, and 19. Children should be dropped off in Room XXX at 5:30pm and picked up at 7:15pm. Dinner is provided. Nursery care is also available.

ALL CHURCH

“SEASON CELEBRATION” LUNCHEON

January 13th. Palm Valley Country Club, \$30

Immediately after 2nd service, approx. 12:00pm.

Signups will be December 9, 16, 30 and January 6th.

Save the date for a new tradition where we gather together as a whole church to share a meal and celebrate what God is doing in our midst.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS

All are welcome! Every Sunday in Eisenhower Library.

9:00am The Gospel of Luke with Dick Falb

10:30am The Book of Ruth with Andrew Sanderson

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Every Monday, 10:00am - 11:30am in Eisenhower Library
Lead by Joanne Brechbill. Just bring your Bible and come.
Old fashioned Bible study on Genesis.

Questions? Contact Kathy Kolb 760-564-5904 or email
desert4nana@aol.com.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAYS 7:00pm – 8:00pm

A year round men's Bible study at Bermuda Dunes C.C.

All men are welcome.

For more information contact Roger Low at (760) 345-
8986.

WEDNESDAYS 7:30am-8:30am

Mountain/Dunes Clubhouse in Santa Rosa Cover, La

Quinta. We will be studying the Book of Acts, Chapter 1.

We hope you will join us. Call Stu Parry at 330-472-1704
for info.

EARLY BIRD'S MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meets at 6:00 am in the church library.

For more information, call Lloyd Macfadyen 760-346-
9769

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY, “CBS”

All women of the Church are invited to attend an in-
depth Interdenominational Community Bible Study
(CBS) Wednesday mornings from 10a.m. – noon.

We will be on break December 19th, resuming January
9th. Children are welcome as well! We will be studying
Daniel and begin our study on Revelations on January
16th. Registration fees: Adults \$35; Children (infants
to age 18) \$10; scholarships are available. For more
information or to register, please contact Corky

Olander mc.olander2@verizon.net

or 760-200-3120.

FAMILY MINISTRY

For questions about any of our current or upcoming activities, feel free to contact our Director of Family Ministries, Ryan Schmall at RyanS@pdpresby.org.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT - “Home Alone”

Family Movie Night - December 14 - 6:00-8:00 - FREE!

Join us for our monthly Family Movie Night! This month’s movie will be the classic holiday film “Home Alone.” Come grab a hot dog, popcorn, and other treats as we connect together during the Christmas season!

We hope you can join us! For more info, contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org or 760-345-8195 x521.



CHILDREN’S MINISTRY (Ages 2 – 5th Grade)

SUNDAY SCHOOL –Children begin the worship service with their families and then are dismissed to continue their worship in Sunday School. Following the worship service, parents pick up their children in Room 205/206. Questions? Contact Gerry Neighbors at GerryN@pdpresby.org or 760.346.8195 x532.

Nursery care is available for children under 2 years of age.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS- 5:30pm – 7:15pm.

Children ages birth- 5th grade are invited to join us for dinner, teaching, games, music and crafts every Wednesday night!

SPROUTS CHILDREN SINGING

The children will be bringing Christmas cheer to the congregation and our Carlotta friends by singing on December 16th.

grow

ROOTS STUDENT MINISTRY (Grades 6-12)

SUNDAY MORNINGS- “Deeper Roots” 9:30am in Room 108/109. An environment for students to dig into challenging questions that are designed to deepen their faith. Students begin with worship service in the Sanctuary and then are dismissed to the Student Ministry Room. On Communion Sunday students are to remain in the worship service with their families.



SUNDAY NIGHTS- ROOTS

5:00pm-6:30pm. Room 108/109

A space designed for students to connect with others and enter into conversation about faith, no matter where they're at on their journey with Christ.

No Sunday night program December 23 or 30.

ROOTS CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 16 - 5:00-8:00 - 47831 Pansy St. Indio, CA - FREE!

Students are invited to our annual Christmas Party. We'll be having an ugly sweater competition and a white elephant gift exchange. Students are invited to bring a Christmas-themed snack to share also! You never know what might happen at a Roots Christmas party...or who might show up! For more questions, contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org.

SERVICE PROJECT

The Narrow Door Christmas Store Service

Project December 19 - 5:00-8:00 Roots will be participating in The Narrow Door's annual Christmas Store which helps provide Christmas resources to families in need all over the Coachella Valley. To sign up, contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org.

ROOTS NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY - December 31 -
6:00PM-1:00AM - FREE!

Roots is hosting a New Year's Eve Party at the church. We'll be spending the evening playing games and worshipping together as we ring in the new year! Students are invited to bring a snack to share.

WINTER CAMP

February 1-3

Roots is heading to Forest Home for Winter Camp this year! It's going to be 3 packed days of fun, connecting, and deepening our relationship with Christ! The cost is \$200. Spots are limited, so don't delay to sign up! Also, if you're willing to sponsor a student to go to camp, we'd be incredibly thankful!

GROWTH GROUP MINISTRY

Being committed to other Christians in a small group is a crucial contributor to our Spiritual health. If you want to join a small group, or host or lead one, let us know and we would be glad to help you get involved. Feel free to contact Andrew or Denyse Sanderson at 442-300-6740 or aandd@mac.com

We currently have Groups on Monday & Friday Evenings and Wednesday afternoons, other meeting times are also available.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will hold its Annual Tea at the home of Marilyn Smythe on December 4th. We will be discussing Billy Graham's autobiography "Nearing Home". When you make your reservation please let us know what you will be bringing to share at the tea. Call Marilyn Smythe at 760-424-6132 to make your reservation.

SERVE MINISTRY

Serve Ministry at our church is made up of a number of loving, nurturing and caring ministries.

- **Pastors** Dave, Sid and Floyd are always available for visits, counseling, spiritual support and loving pastoral care.
- **Deacons** provide a compassionate ministry to meet short term needs and includes Care Day, Deacon's Grant Fund. Contact Sharin Orr at 760-668-5952 or sharinorr1@aol.com
- **Stephen Ministry** is a relational ministry for people who are experiencing loss or who find themselves in a time of crisis. Contact Debbie Smith 303-249-5553 or dsmith@happybuffalos.com or Joan Larsen 760-346-2515 or joanmlarsen@sbcglobal.net
- **GriefShare** is a support ministry for those experiencing the loss of a loved one. A new session will begin in January. Contact Kim Kershaw 951-515-4002 or KimKershaw@me.com
- **Senior Ministry Team** is an outreach ministry to those who, due to physical limitations, are unable to attend church programs. Contact Harry Wilson at 951-805-4901 or HWilson@yahoo.com.
- **Eisenhower Chaplaincy Program** meets the spiritual needs of patients and their families. Contact Barbara White at BarbaraWhite@dc.rr.com.

If you are looking for an opportunity to participate in a SERVE ministry – Stephen Ministry, Local Missions, International Missions, etc. Please contact Kathy Aposhian in the Church Office 760-346-8195 x530 and we will gladly assist you in identifying the ministry or mission work that is right for you.

CARE DAY – BETTER BY SUNDAY

Every Tuesday from 8:30am – 11:30am we are here to connect with those from our community facing difficult times to love, listen, and to help however we can.

Please help us by stocking our Deacons' Closet!

This month we need:

Cereal, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Coffee, Tea, Sugar, Flour, Cup of Noodles, Peanut Butter and Jelly.

Please no household items, no expired foods.

Items may be dropped off at any time in the church office. The next curbside collection is December 9th.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Help Make Christmas Bright for Children at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission.

"Adopt" a child by taking a Wish Card from the Giving Tree table today after the service, or stop by the Church office any time during the week. Please return all gifts (wrapped or unwrapped) back to the Church by **Sunday, December 16**. You may also choose to donate money at the Giving Tree Table and we will do the shopping- and wrapping- for you!

If you have any questions or would like assistance in participating, please contact Lindsay Miller at 760.899.7201 or lindsaysmiller@hotmail.com.

serve

GRIEFSHARE

Monday, December 3, 10 and 17th, from 1-3:30pm in Eisenhower Library.

We offer help and encouragement after the death of a loved one with a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

Confidential support and .Contact Kim Kershaw with questions: 951-515-4002 or KimKershaw@me.com

SONGSHINE BASICS:

December 3rd, 10th, & 17th

Explore diaphragmatic costal/breathing, learn vocalises, songs, role play, creative imagination and more. All designed to help aging voices, Parkinson's, stroke, or any neurological disorder. Let SongShine bring your voice back to life. Join us each Monday in Miller Hall from 12:30-1:30. And it's FUN! Taught by Peter Harris and Ruthanna Metzgar

SongShine Singers and Players: Preparing *My Fair Lady* by Lerner and Loewe. Come and start rehearsing a concert version of this well known musical. Classes meet each Monday in Miller Hall from 2-3:30. Prerequisite: 10 weeks of SongShine Basics. You may take Basics and Singers and Players concurrently. Taught by Peter Harris and Ruthanna Metzgar.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

CARE FOR HURTING PEOPLE

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one, confidential, care-giving ministry that provides distinctively Christian care to those who are experiencing loss or who find themselves in a time of crisis. To learn more about becoming a Stephen Minister call or email Debbie Smith 303-249-5553, dsmith@happybuffalos.com. If you are going through a difficult time and need a listening, non-judgmental person with a caring heart to walk alongside you, contact Stephen Ministry Leader, Joan Larsen at 760-346-5215, or joanmlarsen@sbcglobal.net.



STEPHEN
MINISTRY

Why Would I Want a Stephen Minister?

“I lost my job six months ago, I worked 25 years as diligently as I could. I learned the business from the bottom up. I did more than was asked of me, why me?” These words were shared with his Stephen Minister caregiver over coffee. The care receiver had been assigned to a caring, empathetic male member of Stephen Ministry. They had been meeting each week for several months. The care receiver had struggled alone the first six weeks, he thought he could manage the situation by himself. He was strong. He had a good support group in his family. However, he discovered that he was becoming depressed, anxious and embittered. He needed an objective, empathetic skilled caring Christian caregiver to whom he could tell his problems.

Does this scenario sound familiar? Do you know someone who is in a similar situation? Or facing the future without a recently lost beloved spouse? Or losing a home? Recovering from a recent divorce? Experiencing a chronic illness? In a new location with no resources? Parenting a wayward teen? All these issues would warrant having a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers are trained to walk beside you. To listen non-judgmentally. To request a Stephen Minister, call Joan Larsen 760-346-5215.

No one should hurt alone. The Stephen Minister logo
“Christ cares for people through people.”

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MISSIONS

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS MINISTRIES

A primary focus for PDCPC is its participation in Christ-centered missions and we currently support 12 Christian International Missions discipling throughout the world. A world that is hungry for food, water, shelter, safety, medical care, transportation, education and knowledge about the love and power of Jesus Christ.

“Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve.”- Matthew 20:28

These projects are administered by the following dedicated servants of the Lord:

- Africa Inland Mission, South Sudan & Kenya, Jim & Bev Streit
- Good News Jail & Prison Ministry, Colorado, Rev. Dan & Shirley Matsche
- Hands of Luke, Juarez, Mexico & El Paso, TX, Carmen Samaniego
- Horizons International, Headquarters Boulder, CO & Beirut, Lebanon, Georges & Joy Houssney
- (Allegro Solutions) The Micah Project, Honduras, John & Rebecca Bell
- MMS Aviation, Missionary Maintenance Services, Headquarters, Coshocton, Ohio
- (Shepherd Staff OCM) Our Call Missions, Uganda
- Pioneers – EMAF, Brazil, Marcio & Damarius Garcia
- Project Medsend, Headquarters, Stratford CT, Randy Carey

For more information on any of these Missions please contact :
Jerry Allen for Local Missions 760-895-7037
Joe or Joyce Stein for National and International Missions
at 760-568-3920.

MISSIONS

The Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church's (PDCPC) Missions Ministry Team welcomes back all our seasonal members and visitors.

The Missions Ministry Team, in partnership with the PDCPC leadership has prayerfully reviewed and refined the Missions programs that will be supported this year by our congregation.

Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve... Matthew 20:28

These Mission Partners currently include:

Amor Ministries, Aim Air, Good News Jail & Prison Ministry, Hands of Luke, Horizons International, Med Send, Micah Project, MMS Aviation, Pioneers-EMAF and Shepherd's Staff.

The team is already making plans and arrangements for our exciting MISSIONS WEEK'S activities for February 20th – 24th, 2019.

We will be blessed by hosting and presenting some of the dynamic and dedicated missions programs supported by PDCPC.

To date, Georges Housseny of Horizons International and Jon & Kirstie Wilson of Amor Ministries will be presenting.

Additionally, we look forward to visits at other times throughout the year from other of our Missions partners.

"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah 29:11

The following Missions Committee members welcome any requests for information or suggestions:

Kathy Aposhian, Jeff and Molly Heusinkveld, Michael Landes, Sandy Rhoades, Nelinda Stegall and Missions Committee chairs, Joe and Joyce Stein.

serve

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES

For more information regarding Congregational Ministries (Sanctuary Guild, Carpentry Guild and Craft Ministries) contact Sarah Seils at (760) 409-2385 or Sjfmla111@gmail.com.

SANCTUARY GUILD

The Sanctuary Guild is looking for new members! We meet on the second Tuesday of each month in Eisenhower Library at 2pm. Contact Margaret Sandelmann for further information at 760-772-3129 or mwsandelmann@att.net

CRAFT MINISTRIES

Both groups meet on Thursdays from 9am-12noon. Mending Hearts in Miller Hall. Pins and Needles in the Family Life Center.

PINS AND NEEDLES Pins and Needles would like to thank everyone for the donations that we received in November. They are already being used.

We were able to supply the congregation with 30 handknit teddy bears at no cost to them for their use to help fill the Samaritan Purse boxes.

We are currently supporting 29 Palms Marine Base as well as Camp Pendleton Marine Base. We have a special project, and that is supporting a church in West Virginia. We are sending warm clothes, hats, scarves to those who are in dire need. I personally have contact with the Pastor and Care Day

MENDING HEARTS

The Mending Hearts Thursday morning fellowship is very busy creating hand-made comfort items for those in need all over the world. Please join us from nine to noon in the Miller Hall. Maureen Mulcahey, Director 760 636-4828.

financials

Session Financial Reports October 2018

Church (Period 10)

	Month		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Income	\$129,834	\$97,716	(\$32,118)
Expenditures	\$128,749	\$127,813	\$936
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$1,085	(\$30,097)	(\$31,182)

Church (Period 10)

	Year-to-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Income	\$1,142,396	\$1,005,926	(\$136,470)
Expenditures	\$1,328,841	\$1,329,498	(\$657)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$186,445)	(\$323,572)	(\$137,127)

Session Financial Reports October 2018

	Annual
Income	Budget
	\$1,590,326
Expenditures	
	\$1,590,326
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	
	\$0

closing the loop

Please note the office will be closed December 25^h and 26th for Christmas.



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-  760.346.8195
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