

# [the loop]

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO CONNECTION AT PDCPC

AUGUST 2019

## **WORSHIP**

Summer Worship Service- 9:00 am on Sunday mornings. Our “Desert Places” sermon series continues throughout the month.

// For more information on events related to music & worship, visit page 3.

## **GROW**

This is the summer of connection at PDCPC. Connect with God and with others through one of our many Growth groups, now forming!

// For more information on steps you can take to grow in your relationship with God and with others visit page 4.

## **SERVE**

The heat of summer opens up several doors for our congregation to serve our community through the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission & through our Care Day ministry.

// For more information on how you can serve others here and around the world this summer, visit page 8.



# a note from your pastor



Greetings PDCPC!

I hope you have enjoyed learning from the “desert passages” of scripture these last few weeks as much as I

have. I find it fascinating that the “desert experiences” that we all encounter can be difficult, stretching, and challenging yet, those experiences can be the very place that God finds us, meets us, and communicates with us in unique ways. We will continue with this theme through the end of August and I am looking forward to learning more about God and about ourselves alongside you all!

In September, we will begin a new series called Superbloom: From Surviving, to Thriving in any climate. This series is designed to follow up our “Desert Places” series and will be focused on how we can live flourishing lives by looking at the book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter.

Please note that on October 6 we will return to two Sunday worship services. The traditional worship service (with organ, traditional hymns, and choir) will be held at 8:30am and the second worship service will begin at 10:00am. We are looking forward to a wonderful season of worshipping together as we close out 2019 and begin 2020 together!

Grace and Peace.

David Ludwig

## WORSHIP NOTES

August 11 Communion Sunday

Organist update! Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Mark Santostefano, our very talented organist who lives locally and has been playing the organ in various churches for many years! We are extremely grateful for his presence with us and his musical leadership on Sunday mornings.

## THE DESERT PLACES SERIES

For forty years the children of Israel wandered in the desert, calling no place home. They had left slavery in Egypt, witnessed miracles of God's provision and protection, but year after year, never reaching the illusive Promised Land. They were hot, tired, and hope was running thin.

There may be times in your life were you have "desert experiences." Where is God during those times? Has He forgotten you? Will you ever reach that place of wholeness?

We continue the series in this hot summer month of August, on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. Join Pastor David Ludwig in exploring the next sermon series, The Desert Places. You'll discover the secrets of survival in the desert found in God's Word.

## SCRIPTURE FOCUS

|           |                 |           |               |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| August 4  | Isaiah 40:3     | August 11 | Matthew 3:1-9 |
| August 18 | Exodus 14:11-12 | August 25 | Matthew 3:13  |

## GET CONNECTED

Keep yourself in the know for church events: email [sarab@pdpresby.org](mailto:sarab@pdpresby.org) to have your name added to our weekly email list, or call 760-346-8195 x511. If you do not have email, do not worry, stop in the office for a copy.

New to PDCPC?

We're glad you're here! Please visit our welcome table or contact Kathy Aposhian, Director of Connections at [kathya@pdpresby.org](mailto:kathya@pdpresby.org) or 760-346-8195 x530 for information on how you can get connected!

## **SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS**

Every Sunday following the Worship service, 10:30 - 11:30am  
Eisenhower Library

Fortify yourself with coffee, a donut, and the Word of God each week as we study the book of Kings. For more details or if you would like to share in the teaching, please contact Andrew Sanderson 760-702-7646 or [aandd@mac.com](mailto:aandd@mac.com).

## **MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES**

Wednesdays, year-round, 7:00 – 8:00 pm  
Bermuda Dunes C.C.

All men are welcome. For more information contact Roger Low at 760-345-8986.

## **WOMEN'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY**

This group is on summer hiatus. Stay tuned for fall info!

## **COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY "CBS"**

CBS Women's in-depth Bible Study, hosted by PDCPC, is on break for the summer. Sign-ups for the 2019-2020 session (beginning Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 10:00am to 12:00pm) are being taken now. The study, Christian Living/Christian Leadership will provide a practical application of Biblical teachings and will include Philemon, 1,2 & 3 John as well as Jude re: Christian Living; and 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus & Colossians re: Christian Leadership. Please contact Corky Olander at 760-574-1181 or [mc.olander2@verizon.net](mailto:mc.olander2@verizon.net) for more information or to sign up. Costs: Adults \$35; Children \$10.

## **LADIES LUNCH BUNCH**

Thursday, August 29, 11:30 am  
Sammy's Woodfired Pizza  
73595 El Paseo, Palm Desert

Ladies are invited to this monthly gathering for food and fellowship! RSVP to Diane Arneal 760-200-9812 by August 25. We order from the menu with separate checks.

## 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](mailto:ryans@pdpresby.org) or call 760-346-8195 x521

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### NURSERY

Drop-off nursery care is available during our worship service for children under 2 years of age. The Nursery is located next to Miller Hall and parents can sign their children in/out before and after the service in that location. We also live stream the service in the Nursery for parents who would like to remain with their infants.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL (Ages 2 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Join us every Sunday morning for a special time with Ry-Ry the Bible Guy as he conducts an experiment that helps kids think about what it looks like to follow Jesus with their lives! Children begin in the Sanctuary 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.

### SCIENCE DAY CAMP

August 19-23, Ages 2<sup>1/2</sup> - K

\$140 Half Day (7:30 am-12:30 pm)

\$190 Full Day (7:30 am-5:30 pm)



We are hosting our first ever Science Day Camp with Ry-Ry the Bible Guy! All week long, kids will get to “experiment” with how much God loves the world! Options for a full or half day are available. For more info, contact Ry-Ry (Ryan) at [ryans@pdpresby.org](mailto:ryans@pdpresby.org). We are also looking for volunteers to help make this a successful week connecting with kids and their families. If you're

interested in helping, please contact Ryan.



## SUMMER CAMP ADVENTURES!

Thank you so much for your willingness to pray and donate finances to make these trips a reality! We are deeply thankful for everyone who helped in any capacity! Your help has allowed us to make a massive impact in the lives of many students! To see more pictures from all our summer fun at Roots, be sure to visit [www.instagram.com/pdroots](http://www.instagram.com/pdroots).

This summer has been an amazing time for Roots, our student ministry here at PDCPC! We had the opportunity to take our middle school and high school students on a couple trips and saw God move in their lives! Here is a quick recap.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVENTURE



In June a group of middle school students went to Orange County, CA where they explored all that the area has to offer - from Medieval Times to Disneyland and everything in between. The students spent 4 awesome days together and thought through what it looks like to find God in their everyday lives. They were challenged to think about how God is with them every single day whether that's in school, home, or when they're with their friends. Through the weekend, several students discovered Jesus for the first time, and some decided to recommit their lives to him!



## DESTINATION UNKNOWN – HIGH SCHOOLERS

In July, our high school students went on an adventure into the unknown. None of them were allowed to know where they were going until arrival in Hollywood, CA. Activities included a movie premiere at the famous El Capitan Theater, VIP behind-the-scenes tours of studio lots and famous locations and went to Universal Studios.

All week the focus was what it looks like to tell a good story with your life. One example is the story in Genesis where Adam and Eve tried to live a story without God's plot and things fell apart. Students were challenged to think critically about their place in God's story as we were created to be a part of it, not one we make up on our own. Watching students make the decision to live in line with God's story was so great!

### SUMMER CALENDAR!

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL (6TH-8TH GRADE)

//Pool Party, August 18, 5:00 - 7:00 pm, Location TBA

#### HIGH SCHOOL (9TH-12TH GRADE )

//Game Night, August 4, 5:00 - 8:00 pm, Ryan's House

To stay up-to-date(or catch up), you can also follow Roots on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/pdroots](http://www.instagram.com/pdroots), or join the Roots email list by contacting [ryans@pdpresby.org](mailto:ryans@pdpresby.org).



## **CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES**

// Directed by Sarah Siels 760-409-2385, [sjfmla111@gmail.com](mailto:sjfmla111@gmail.com)

// Carpentry Guild, Pins & Needles, Mending Hearts, Sanctuary Guild, Scholarship Ministry, Ministry of Memorial Gifts, and the Columbarium. These groups are taking a summer hiatus until September, and are busy planning activities for their new season in the fall. Please email Sarah if you'd like more information on how you can get involved!

// The Sanctuary Guild will have it's first meeting on Tuesday, September 10th, at 2:00pm in Eisenhower Library. This group is open to anyone who is interested in preparing communion monthly, caring for our sanctuary, and decorating for our high holy days.

// Christian Education Scholarship Ministry, thanks to your generosity, is supporting 4 students for the 2019/2020 academic year.

>> Kathy Aposhian- \$3600 Beginning third year  
Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA

>> Lauren Humphreys- \$1200 Sophomore  
United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO

>> Aidan Murphy - \$2400 Freshman  
Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ

>> Tyler Neighbors - \$600 Freshman- COD, Palm Desert, CA

Scholarship monies are paid half in the fall and half in the spring, and are distributed upon receipt of proof of registration.

We are a faith based, non budgeted committee. We rely on your generous gifts to support our church family who are going on to higher education. Please keep these students in your prayers.

## **DEACONS MINISTRY**

Did you know you have a deacon in our church who is praying for you and here to support you and encourage you if you need it? If you'd like more information about how to get connected with your deacon, contact Director, Kathy Kolb at 310-502-4277.

## **DEACONS' CLOSET**

Every Tuesday, 8:30 – 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: canned meat, soups, peanut butter, jelly, shampoo, snacks, instant coffee, tea, deodorants, laundry detergent, diapers for children and adults.

Please no expired foods.

**Items may be dropped off at any time in the church office.**

**The next curbside collection is August 11.**

## **LOCAL MISSIONS**

// Directed by Jerry Allen, will continue their ministries with the  
// Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, Lary Rogers, Coordinator  
// Olive Crest, Jerry Allen  
// Kairos Prison Ministry, headed by Tim Scott  
// Read With Me is off for the summer  
// GriefShare, coordinated by Kim Kershaw

## **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS**

// Directed by Molly and Jeff Heusinkveld 760-567-0536 or  
houseinthefield5@outlook.com  
// 11 different National and International Missions who need our  
financial and hands-on assistance year-round

**PASTORAL CARE** Is provided by Pastor David and Pastor Floyd, along with Kathy Aposhian.

// Additionally we have seven members of our congregation who serve in the Chaplaincy Program at Eisenhower Medical Center, coordinated by Barbara While.

// Please let us know if you are admitted to the hospital. Other hospitals contact us if you let them know you are a covenant partner (member) at PDCPC or have someone call the church office and we will be there for you.

## **SENIOR MINISTRY**

//Directed by Harry Wilson is focused on helping seniors who need transportation to and from church and other specific needs they may have. Contact Harry Wilson 951-805-4901 to volunteer or for assistance.

## **STEPHEN MINISTRY**

*“Anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, but only empties today of its strength.” Alexander Maclaren*

When things seem too much to handle, don't give up, look up. Everyone goes through difficult times. When you feel hopeless, it is easy to feel alone. God does not intend for you to struggle alone. The Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church has Stephen Ministers who can walk along side you. They have been trained to care, to listen, to share God's love with you and to help you through the difficult times. If you, or someone you know, needs support as they struggle with a feeling of hopelessness, call Stephen Leader, Debbie Smith 303-249-5553, [dsmith@happybuffalos.com](mailto:dsmith@happybuffalos.com).

*“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28*



## **BACKPACK BONANZA**

Collection Day: Sunday, August 4

(Or drop off your backpack to the bin in the church office during the week)

Thousands of children in the Coachella Valley will face the coming school year without the supplies needed to complete class assignments and do their homework. You can make a difference in their lives by improving the quality of their education and instilling in them a belief in the compassion of others. Make that difference by donating to CVRM's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Backpack Drive! Our goal this year is to fill at least 2,500 backpacks with all the supplies a child will need for a successful school year.

Here is how you can help: Purchase supplies and drop them off at the church office by Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> or CVRM before 8AM on August 10. Visit [CVRM.org/backpack](http://CVRM.org/backpack) to find a list of supplies, or donate and they will buy and fill a backpack for you.

### **SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST**

- New Backpacks
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Spiral Notebooks
- 3-Ring Binders
- Subject Dividers
- Pocket Portfolios
- Safety Scissors
- Colored Pencils
- Felt Tip Markers
- School Glue
- Art Pads
- Black/Blue Pens
- Pencils
- Crayons (24 or more pack)
- K – 3 Writing Tablet
- Glue Sticks
- Protractors
- Dictionaries
- Hole Punches
- 12" Rulers
- Highlighters
- Pencil Box
- Erasers
- Notebook Paper

## MISSION PARTNER UPDATE, SEEDS OF JOY, KENYA



SEEDS  
*of Joy*

Vision: Our vision is to provide Christ-filled leaders in business, professions, and politics.

Mission: Our Mission, which supports this vision, is to create the best school in Kenya

Goal: To contribute to the promotion of socio-economic development through support to education & health initiatives, community empowerment, and promotion of good cultural values and practices. "To establish a firm Christian foundation for the less privileged, the vulnerable, the needy by lifting God among the young/ youth and through ministering the love and care to all so that He may draw all to Himself". James 1: 27, John 12: 32c

Dear Rev. Ludwig,

The teachers and students of the Agongo schools are deeply grateful for the quarterly contribution received from the Mission Department of Palm Desert Presbyterian Church.

The resources available to the SEED\* Academy (the [elementary school](#)) and the Isaya Amonde Special Secondary School are very limited and a contribution such as this will make a substantial difference in the lives of the students.

Since receiving these funds (through a Seeds of Joy Foundation wire transfer), I've been praying with our board for the best way to make a significant difference in our school because of this new partnership resource. We want to be good and faithful stewards of our partnership with Palm Desert.

We have approximately one thousand students on campus, more than four hundred in our secondary school. These students face many of the same issues teenagers in the World face and they

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sometimes make bad choices that can hinder their progress or limit their options in the future. Our board would very much like to provide our students (especially the secondary boarding students) with a full-time Counsellor.

The Counsellor would be charged with establishing a trusting relationship with the **students** and to be available to give advice and good counsel on a regular basis (not just when students are in crisis) and to develop preventive counselling strategies to help keep our students on the right path. You can imagine the impact a Counsellor could make as students grapple with the universal adolescent issues of drugs and alcohol, sex and romance, academic and career planning, social adjustment, as well as Christian life and commitment.



Your quarterly contribution will make it possible for us to hire this full-time staff position and implement much-needed counselling programs and strategies.

Please know we consider Palm Desert our close partner in Jesus as we pursue our vision of providing Kenya with Christ-filled leaders in business, politics, and the professions.

Also, please share with your AIM Air partners our gratitude for putting us in touch with this missionary aviation service. AIM Air extends the time we can spend with visiting mission groups and saves us days of travel when groups come to our village.

Bless you for all you are doing in The **Kingdom** and for all you're doing to further our mission in the village of Agongo and beyond.

Bwana Asifiwe,  
Dr. Joel O. Amonde

To read more of the stories of our church community visit our blog.  
<http://www.pdpresby.org/the-blog-pdpcp>

# financials

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## JUNE'S INCOME & EXPENSE

### Income

| June Actual | Budget   | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
|-------------|----------|------------|------------|
| \$105,705   | \$79,541 | \$705,098  | \$714,443  |

### Expenses

| June Actual | Budget    | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| \$135,206   | \$158,265 | \$755,354  | \$796,693  |

### Net

| June Actual | Budget     | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| (\$29,501)  | (\$78,724) | (\$50,256) | (\$82,250) |

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## closing the loop

- //August 20     Deadline for Submission for the September Loop
- //Fridays       Please note the office will be closed except by appointment on Fridays in the month of August
- //August 22     Volunteers are needed to assemble the Loop for distribution. Meet at 9AM in Eisenhower Library.
- //September 4   Kick off for Wednesday Night at Church programs
- //September 5   Choir practice begins



# Superbloom

From Surviving to Thriving  
In Any Climate

• New Sermon Series beginning September 8 | 9:00am



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Palm Desert, CA 92260

-  760.346.8195
-  [www.pdpresby.org](http://www.pdpresby.org)
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